

Chicago

Coin

Club

Chatter



January, 2002

Volume 48 No. 1

EC

This and the past few issues have been reduced to its usual size once we have a new issue the first since October. Bring your comments to the February issue will contain descriptions of the along with ordering information for the Saturday night of CICF.

Some members might not attend the FUN, NYINC, or some other social event resulting trip reports (HINT).

Minutes of

Minutes of the 995th Meeting

The 995th meeting of the Chicago Entomological Society
December 12, 2001 by President
Banquet held at the Mid Day Cafe

Harlan Berk received a round of applause

Six Guests were present:

- ☐ Mary Claire Carrigan
- ☐ Marcia Zitowsky
- ☐ KL Robert

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 1

January 2002

Editor's Notes

This and the past few issues have been slim, but next month should be back to its usual size once we have a meeting with a Show and Tell opportunity -- the first since October. Bring your items to the January meeting! Also, the February issue will contain descriptions of the Thousandth Meeting medals along with ordering information. The 1000th meeting banquet will be on the Saturday night of CICF.

Some members might not attend our January meeting because they are at FUN, NYINC, or some other site. The rest of us will look forward to the resulting trip reports (HINT).

Paul Hybert, editor

Minutes of the 994th Meeting

Minutes of the 995th Meeting

The 995th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on December 12, 2001 by President Carl Wolf. The meeting was the Annual Banquet held at the Mid Day Club on the 57th floor of 1 Bank One Plaza.

Harlan Berk received a round of applause for sponsoring the Hors D'oeuvres.

Six Guests were present:

- ☐ Mary Claire Carrigan
- ☐ Marcia Zitowsky
- ☐ KL Robertson Daly

- ☐ Brian Feiler
- ☐ Jennifer Feiler
- ☐ Kathy Rosinia

Robert Leonard delivered the Invocation before dinner.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced Reid Geisler who gave a stimulating presentation on the contemporary error coins of the United States Mint. The presentation entertained and informed members and guests alike.

President Carl Wolf gave special thanks to the following members who made substantial contributions of time to the club in 2001:

- ☐ Lyle Daly - Secretary & Treasurer
- ☐ Paul Hybert - Editor of "The Chatter"
- ☐ Mark Wieclaw - Chairman of the "1000th Meeting Committee"

Member Bill Burd briefly explained the Cabeen Awards, given to members who have presented numismatic material during our meetings through out the year. Bill presented the awards as follows:

- ☐ Mark Wieclaw - Gold
- ☐ Robert Leonard - Silver
- ☐ Honorable Mention:
 - ☐ Donald Dool
 - ☐ Carl Wolf
 - ☐ Reid Geisler
 - ☐ Robert Feiler
 - ☐ Mike Metras
 - ☐ Sharon Blocker

Carl Wolf commended Banquet Chairman Jeff Rosinia and again thanked Harlan Berk for the hors d'oeuvres. Both received a well deserved round of applause.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Important Dates

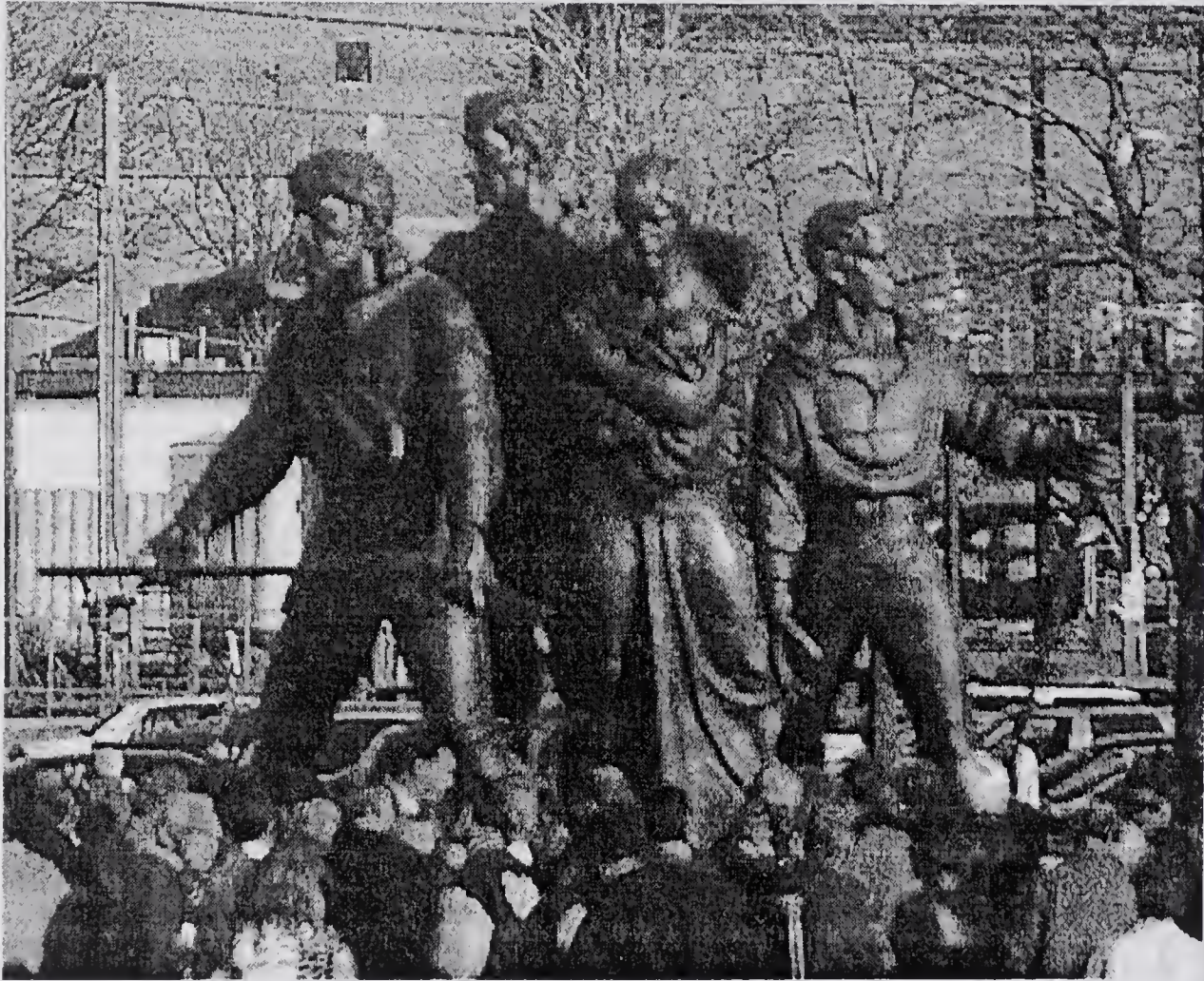
- January 9** CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Philip Carrigan on *An Overview of Canadian and Maritime Numismatic Entities*
- March 1-3** 8th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.
- April 5-7** 27th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.
- June 28-30** 21st Annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.
-

Birthday and Year Joined

- February 1 Damon Todd Skinner 1999
- February 2 Tillie Boosel
- February 9 Steven G. Zitowsky 1991
- February 16 Donald H. Dool 1998
- February 25 Walter Pershke 1968
- February 27 Ronald Martino 1991
-

Elgin Dedicates Pioneer Family Memorial Statue

By Mike Metras



Newly dedicated Pioneer Family Memorial

On November 11, Veteran's day, the city of Elgin dedicated Trygve Rovelstad's *The Pioneer Family Memorial* on the Fox River at the Public Library. Designed in the early 1930s and rendered in plaster of Paris in 1985, the bronze sculpture was erected after the latest fundraising campaign begun by the Pioneer memorial foundation began in 1999.

Mr. Rovelstad placed the stature on the reverse his 1936 Elgin Centennial Half Dollar. The coin was issued to finance the construction of The Pioneer

Memorial in Davidson Park in Elgin. Its foundation was laid in 1934. The statue was only now set up in its current location.



Elgin Centennial Half Dollar

Starting in 1999 the Pioneer Memorial Foundation, headed by Steve Youngren, quickly raised sufficient funds from area individuals, organizations, and businesses to have the sculpture cast.

The program handed out at the dedication describes the memorial in heroic language. "The Pioneer Family Memorial sculpture represents three phases of pioneering in America. The Central group depicts the Settlers. Preceding them is the Scout and following is the Youth. The sculpture is the representative of the common folk who came from all parts of the world to settle on the vast forest and prairie lands of Illinois and America.

"The Pioneer Father (whose bust is an idealized version of Elgin founder James Gifford) is looking ahead and pointing out the richness of the new lands where he will build his home and future. The Pioneer Mother is portrayed as an heroic woman, clad in a homespun gown, holding her first born babe, to whom she looks with love. She is a symbol of the loyalty and strength of those women who raised their families in a new and wild country. The Pioneer Scout was the leader in the westward march, who, though nameless, will always be remembered.

"The Pioneer Youth is depicted next to a scroll, indicative of knowledge and plans for the future."

During the dedication, Steve Youngren explained that the statue is placed on the River bank very close to the place where Elgin founder James Gifford is said to have first come ashore.

Trygve Rovelstad was born Sept 27, 1903 in Elgin. He was a life-long sculptor. During World War II he worked for the War Department and designed several military medals.

On the numismatic front, in addition to these military medals and the Elgin Centennial Half Dollar and other items, Trygve designed the Illinois Sesquicentennial medal in 1968 and the Chicago Coin Club's 50th Anniversary medal in 1969. These are only samples of his work.



Chicago Coin Club 50th Anniversary Medal

Trygve was a member of the Elgin Coin Club for many years and attended often. Only Elgin Coin Club members who have been members for longer than 12 years remember that though. He died on June 8, 1990 at 86 years old. His wife, Gloria, was also a member of the Elgin Coin Club until she died a couple years ago. She attended periodically and never missed a White Elephant sale. She often contributed one item or another from Trygve's material for the sale.

So the statue is finally in place to honor Elgin's forefathers and stand tall there for centuries to come.

For more information on the Elgin Centennial half, see the January 1997,

article in the Elgin Coin Club Newsletter at www.prairienet.com/coins/ecc/ecc9701.htm. The article is also reproduced on Mike Metras' *Money Meanderings: An Introduction to Numismatics* CD-ROM book. For the latest information on the happenings with the Pioneer Memorial foundation go to www.pioneermemorial.com.

Our 996th Meeting

Date: January 9, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

*Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and **everyone** must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*

Featured speaker: Philip Carrigan - *An Overview of Canadian and Maritime Numismatic Entities*

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

**CHICAGO COIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2301
CHICAGO, IL 60690**

Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daley
 William Burd
 Jeff Rosinia
 Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daley - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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February, 2002

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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 2

February 2002

Minutes of the 996th Meeting

The 996th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on January 9, 2002 at 7:01 PM by President Carl Wolf. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

The November and December 2001 minutes were approved as submitted.

There was no Treasurer's Report due to the absence of the Secretary/Treasurer, Lyle Daly.

Robert Feiler, Vice President and Program Director, introduced the featured speaker for the evening, Philip Carrigan. Mr. Carrigan, a Chicago Coin Club member and club Archivist, has been interested in coins since he was about ten years old. His topic for the evening was Canadian & Maritime Numismatic Entities. Following the talk he was presented with the speaker's medal by Robert Feiler.

Show & Tell had eleven exhibitors as follows:

- ☐ Mark Wieclaw - 5 oz. Columbia medal and die; Caracala denarius fouree; Geta denarius fouree; Titus denarius celebrating the opening of the Coliseum; three coins, .50, .25 and .10, machined to fit together.
- ☐ Carl Wolf - Primitive money, a framed Boloko from the Congo used by the Songo-Meno people. A U-shaped piece of forged copper. In 1911 a Boloko was worth one male goat or sheep, two a male slave, three a female slave and ten paid a marriage dowry.
- ☐ Robert Feiler - 1823 French 5 franc money clip with sliding cover for picture (replica?); 1873 Peruvian one sol box medal with 18 black and white (sepia?) photos of the city (replica); vial of gold dust, one pinch. Northern Alaskan assayer's sample mounted on blue plexiglas; 1800 Duke of Wellington brass box medal.

- Paul Hybert - Five U.S. Annual Mint Reports with ex libras of previous owners.
- Robert Leonard - "Bridewealth" from Turkey. A gold bracelet typically given in sets of three or more to Turkish brides as protection from poverty in case of an Islamic divorce.
- Andrew Michyeta - Falkland Islands, 1979 £10, Duck. Part of conservation set.
- Mike Metras - Solidus of Hericleus, Rome 395-425; Two bu, 19th century Japan; Two shu, 19th century Japan; series of uniface items that might be trial strikes.
- Sharon Blocker - U.S. Mint ornaments from 1996 to 2001.
- Steve Zitowski - Four South African to start. Transvaal, 1874, 2d, pattern proof; Orange Free State, 1888, 1d, pattern proof; Giraquatown, no date (1890), 1d, pattern proof in bronze; Republic, 1892, 3d or "tickey", proof in silver; a world flight token or medal from the 1930's, possibly Peru; an elongated Liberty 5 cent piece dated 1886 from the Columbian Exposition.
- Robert Weinstein - Gold Krishnala from Java, ca. 1200AD; Barbarous Aureus of Roman emperor Tiberius; gold gulden dated 1494 from Frankfurt, has sideways 4; gold gulden dated 1499 from Brandenburg.
- Donald Dool - First four items of a new collection, Scripophily of South America, one per country, 19th century, must have been issued in the country and not a government issue. More information on a 1700, 6 Pfenning from the Bistum of Paderborn which had been shown at an earlier meeting.

Under old business Bill Burd awarded a Cabeen Honorable Mention medal to Mike Metras. After discussion, motions were made and seconded to designate the April 6th meeting at CICF and the evening banquet as one meeting, the 1000th. The design of the medal for the banquet was discussed and Mark Wieclaw reported that a design has not been resolved.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned after 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Donald H. Dool,
Second Vice President and Acting Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d An Overview of Canadian & Maritime Numismatic Entities

Presented by Philip J. Carrigan to our January 9, 2002 meeting.

Born and raised in New England, Phil has a long interest in Canadian numismatics. The evening's program started by covering the available literature, first the reference books and then the auction catalogs.

The most popular guide book is Charlton's Standard Catalog, which was first published in 1952. They also have a book on Colonial Tokens; currently in its 4th edition, the first dates from 1988. The many editions are needed to keep up with the new information becoming known about the tokens. *Coins of Canada* by Haxley & Willey also is popular, but it is hard to acquire in the U.S..

The auction catalogs of two outstanding Canadian collections were mentioned. The 1976 McClay-Clements catalog by Frank Rose has many wonderful pieces, such as a 1911 dollar. The catalog of the WWC Wilson collection consists of four parts issued over four years by Wayne Raymond beginning in 1925.

The Canadian decimal coinage started in 1858 for Canada itself, and 1861 for the Maritimes. First coin shown was an 1859 Large Cent, which is known with many varieties (mostly around the date). Its mintage of 10,000,000 makes it more common than the 1858 Large Cent of which only 400,000 were minted. This native coinage started the eventual elimination of foreign (G.B., French, and U.S.) coins from circulation. The large cents continued into 1920, with the small cents starting in 1920.

A 1910 LC was shown in a "slab" from ICCS. Their grading is considered accurate and conservative; but since they are rendering only an *opinion*, they place the coin inside of a sealed flip instead of the hard plastic shell seen here.

An 1894 5 cent silver piece was shown to justify the "fish scale" nickname. These small silver coins were minted up to 1920 when 10,000,000 were minted. The first 5 cent nickel pieces were produced early in 1922, but 2,500,000 of the silver pieces were minted in 1921. However, since most

silver pieces were melted, the approximately 400 pieces available are from sales at the mint. With only 75 of the 50 cent pieces known, and Phil's feeling that the quarter is underappreciated, 1921 is a high profile year for Canadian coins. Although most of the rare 1921 coins are known in VF-XF, some VG pieces show that their rarity was unappreciated by contemporaries.

An 1858 20 cent piece was shown. Minted in only the first year of Canadian coinage, it appears the same as later 25 cent pieces. Its "cheap shilling" nickname can be traced to the British shilling's value of 24 Canadian cents.

The coin issuing Maritimes are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland. Life was hard, and the economy was based upon forestry and fishing. Most coins were of a low denomination, and were greatly worn by heavy use. The few coins of New Brunswick were produced by the Royal Mint; Phil showed a Half Cent from 1861, its only year issued. Denominations up to 20 cents were issued for there.

The coinage of Nova Scotia is similar to that of New Brunswick. Some collect these by variations about the date, leaf veins, and such. Prince Edward Island had a limited coinage, from the Heaton Mint but without any mintmark. The only denomination was the cent, and it was produced in 1871 only.

Newfoundland issued its first coins in 1865, using denominations of one cent through 20 cents and \$2. Large Cents were issued through 1936, and Phil showed a 1920 LC with a C mintmark. It is in a PCGS slab, marked as from the Norweb collection, and with the unusual grade of MS 66 BN; copper coins usually must show some RED to get a 66. An 1870 5 cent grading VF-30 helped Phil make the point that most low denomination silver coins are very worn - many were not saved. Half dollars were too much for everyday transactions, so they stayed in banks and are available today in the higher grades. Similarly, Newfoundland and Canadian coins from 1942-1944 are tough in uncirculated condition.

Collectors identify tokens by a "B" number, for Breton who first took a hand in organizing them. Tokens may have a Queen Victoria obverse but Canadian reverses. Most were made in Great Britain for Canada, but some of the pieces have dubious ties to Canada. Phil showed an 1882 B-910, having an obverse similar to a US Large Cent obverse and an advertising reverse. He showed a few more tokens, before getting to the medals of the CNA.

Founded in 1950, the Canadian Numismatic Association has struck a number

of medals. The medal for their first convention (1954) was struck in silver and brass, with respective mintages of 2 and 200. Phil showed a restrike (denoted by the R) made in 1967 to satisfy the demand. The program concluded with a copper and silver pair of medals issued for the joint CNA/ANA 1962 convention in Detroit. The obverse devices are the left half of an eagle and the right half of maple leaves, in beautiful relief.

Our 997th Meeting

Date: February 13, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building) 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

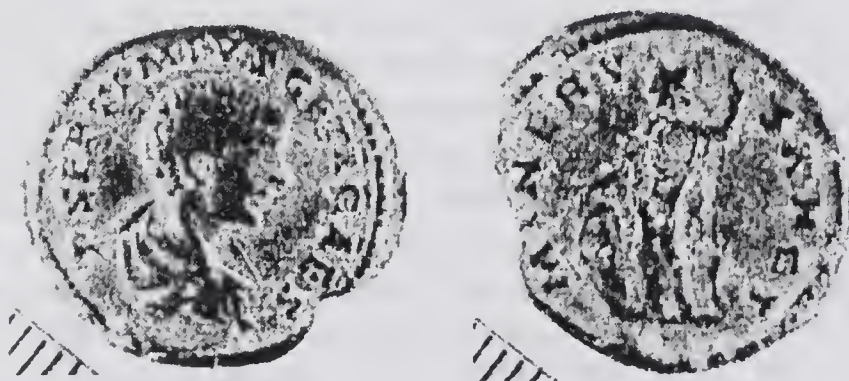
Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day, and everyone must have a photo-ID.

Featured speaker: Paul Hybert - *Learning from U.S. Mint Reports*
What were some of the big and small concerns of the Mint during its first hundred years? The original documents are available in a number of forms. This talk will start by introducing some of those forms, and then, by using some of those reports, show both the results of some decisions and the information that would influence later decisions. For example, we all know the Large Cents were replaced by the small copper-nickel cents in 1857; want to see an annual tally, from 1857 until 1863, of how many Large Cents ended up back at the mint for melting?

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. It being three months since our last Show and Tell, **Mark Wieclaw** eagerly started the program with a "fun" exhibit: lead seals from the shipping boxes for the U.S. Silver Eagles. Mark has shown these before, but tonight's were dated 2002; or rather *should have been dated 2002* because the last digit was off of the seal. After all 20 of the seals Mark checked showed this, he had ventured to Bill Burd that a seal with a full date might be very rare; so Bill showed him a seal with a full date! His real exhibits were:
 - A denarius of Titus (79-81), a son of Vespasian. This piece, with an elephant on the reverse, commemorates the opening of the Coliseum in 80 A.D.
 - The copper core of a fouree (the original surface silvering typically disappeared quickly), issued in the 211 to 212 A.D. time frame. While a traditional denarius weighs approximately 3.5 grams, this weighs 2.3 grams.



- A fouree of Caracalla, weighing 3.1 grams. Only a small spot of copper shows through on the reverse.
 - A trick 1964 half dollar, found while sorting a bag of half dollars. The reverse had been machined, and a quarter was in the hole. Also the quarter had been machined, and it held a dime.
2. Continuing his theme of primitive money, **Carl Wolf** showed a *boloko* from what is now Congo. The U-shaped piece of forged copper weighed 2lbs., 6ozs.

The Songo-Meno people called this item boloko and used it as money through the first half of the twentieth century. They lived near the junction of the Sankuru and Kasai Rivers in present-day Democratic Republic of the Congo. However, they weren't metal smiths and they didn't possess the technological knowledge to make the boloko. Instead, they bartered with the Nkutshu people farther inland and gave in the exchange raw copper and salt, another of their currencies. The croquet hoop shape probably evolved so it would be easier to carry in large quantities.

The Songo-Meno used this currency in their most important transactions. In 1911 French anthropologists wrote that one boloko was equal to a male goat or ram, two bought a male slave, three a female slave and ten boloko were required in payment of a marriage dowry.

3. **Bob Feiler** continued his theme of objects made from coins:
 - ☐ 1823 French (gold plated) Five Franc money clip (Replica?). The Obverse features a cover which slides open to reveal a large compartment with space for a photo or picture.
 - ☐ 1800s Duke of Wellington 1 3/4" Brass Box medal with a slip fit cover. Obverse: a portrait of the Duke of Wellington. Reverse Inscription: "By his consummate skill as a general he has raised the British army to the highest excellence, & himself the most noble, & exalted hero, in the annals of history"
 - ☐ 1873 Peru One Sol (replica) 1 3/4" diameter box medal containing 18 black & white sepia toned very early photos of the capital city, famous monuments, buildings and notable sites.
 - ☐ 2 1/2" long glass vial filled with gold dust; one pinch, Northern Alaska assayers sample mounted onto a 2 1/2" square sheet of dark blue Plexiglas.
4. While gathering information on early US coinage, **Paul Hybert** acquired some of the early U.S. Mint Reports. He brought five reports and showed their *ex libris* markings:
 - ☐ 1935 - Stamps of "DISCARDED FROM LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY Victoria, B.C." and "PROVINCIAL LIBRARY VICTORIA, B.C." help explain its excellent condition.
 - ☐ 1931 - A front cover sticker with a Library of Congress number, stamps of "LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DUPLICATE EXCHANGE" and "Research and Editorial Division Republican National Committee," a "From the Library of Kenneth L. Hallenbeck" pastedown, and a faded binding hint at an interesting life.
 - ☐ 1910 - *Chicago Numismatic Society* hand written in ink.

Printed in early 1911, it bears a "MAR 4 - 1911" date stamp in purple.

- ☐ 1877 - A pastedown from the Greenfield Library Association, listing library hours of "Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 5 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; P.M." and "Saturday, from 3 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; P.M.". No one remembered ever seeing half past the hour so expressed.
 - ☐ 1863 - Hand written "Benson J. Lossing Esq. with the regards of Jhn A. McAllister" in ink on front paper cover. Some members ventured opinions as to Lossing's identity, but nothing was ventured on McAllister.
5. **Bob Leonard** showed a 22 karat gold bracelet, acquired during his September, 2001 trip to Turkey. Originally used as a woman's store of wealth during marriage, the current divorce laws have lessened the need for it by a man's first wife. Bob also showed a *Numismatic News* article, from February 1, 1950, which described the practice and need for it.
6. Silver coins have long interested **Drew Michyeta** who showed a 1979 10 pounds coin from the Falkland Islands. With a duck as the main design element, it is part of a conservation set, started in 1974, from more than 20 countries; With only 1,800 minted, this coin is the key for the set, as most mintages were in the 7,000 to 12,000 range. Although it had sold for as much as \$100 at one time, this piece was acquired recently for \$27.
7. **Mike Metras** first mentioned that he had attended the Cleopatra exhibit earlier today, then he described:
- ☐ A gold solidus of Honorius (395-425) he had acquired at auction the previous month. The hole kept away most bidders.



- ☐ A small gold coin from Japan, this 2 bu weighs about 3 grams

and is from 1860.



- A similar piece, but this 2 shu weighs about 1.5 grams and is from 1832-58. The actual metal content is approximately 60% gold and 40% silver.



- A series of uniface items, in lead or white metal, appear to be trial strikes for:
 - 1619 3 kreuzer
 - 1737-56 Amadeus of Fulda
 - 1780 Frederick II of Hesse Cassel
 - and a piece bearing the legend "May your generations increase by thousands."

Mike welcomes your comments and suggestions about these.

8. **Sharon Blocker** showed a series of ornaments offered by the mint; from a half dollar based design in 1996, to a cent based design in 2000, each had an original price of \$18.95. Add in the two Sacajawea dollar designs in 2000 at \$34.96, for completeness. Conclude with comments and opinions from all around the room.
9. Mostly foreign pieces were shown by **Steve Zitowsky**
 - An 1874 proof Two Pence "pattern" for Transvaal, struck in Brussels.



- ☐ An 1888 One Penny for Orange Free State, struck in Berlin.
- ☐ An 1890 One Penny for Griqua Town, struck in Berlin.
- ☐ An 1892 proof Three Pence for South African Republic; approximately 35-40 pieces made.



- ☐ An unidentified medal from Chile or Peru, apparently connected with aviation.
 - ☐ An elongated nickel from the 1893 Columbian Exhibition. Because an 1886 nickel (the second rarest date of the series) was used, this probably is not a modern production.
10. Also showing coins from around the world was **Bob Weinstein**, but his pieces were from the ancient and medieval eras.
- ☐ A set of three *krishnala* from about 1200 AD on the isle of Java, consisting of the full denomination, a half, and a quarter. The quarter unit now is the most common, after many appeared on the market in 1980. A lingum appears on one side; some believe the letter *nah* also appears, but Bob is not sure. In 1979, Mitchener listed them as from the seventh century Ionian coast.

- A barbarous aureus of Tiberius; Spink attributed this to India, but Bob is not so sure.
- A 1499 gulden from Brandenburg, Franconia. Coat of arms on one side, and Saint John on the other.
- A 1494 Frankfurt gulden, with the last digit on its side. Although a number of coins are known with a four on its side, this is the only piece using the medieval form of a four.

11. **Don Dool** concluded the program by showing something new and something old.

- Don started with his newest collecting effort: nineteenth century South American scripophily, one non-government piece from each country. Out of the 10 countries and 3 colonies, he has pieces from:
 - Argentina, Obligacion Territorial del Banco Union Nacional. Quintentos (500) Pesos issued in Buenos Aires on July 1, 1889;
 - Ecuador, Compañia Minera Pillzhum. Cinco (5) sucres issued in Guayaquil on January 12, 1892;
 - Peru, Compañia Nacional del Ferrocarril Mineral de Pasco. Quintentos (500) soles issued in Lima on January 2, 1892;
 - Venezuela, Compañia Minera Nacional Anonima El Gallo. One hundred twenty five bolivares issued at Ciudad Bolivar on March 1, 1887.
 - A 1700, 6 Pfenning from the Bistum of Paderborn. Don had brought this to his first Show and Tell, as one of four century-ending coins; but this was shown in error. According to the inscription this coin was issued by Franz Arnold, Freiherr von Wolff-Metternich zu Gracht but he did not become Bishop until 1704. It could be a contemporary counterfeit but usually copper coins were not counterfeited so probably it was a mistake in making the die. There ensued some discussion as to whether or not the last zero digit was sufficiently different from the preceding zero, to indicate that the original date was 1706.
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Chicago Coin Club

Financial Report

for 2001

Financial Status as REPORTED 1/10/01

TCF Checking	\$2,789.06
Dreyfus Money Mkt.	\$1,758.05
Bank One CD	\$1,357.09
Bank One CD	\$1,355.17
	\$7,259.37

Financial Status as of 12/31/01

TCF Checking	\$2,486.01
Dreyfus Money Mkt.	\$1,826.80
Bank One CD	\$1,408.09
Bank One CD	\$1,405.88
Undeposited funds	\$260.77
	\$7,387.55

Expenses

2000 Banquet	\$860.15
Awards	\$215.36
Misc Expense: cab fare, Safe Dep, PO Box, State Fee	\$126.70
CPMX Cards	\$365.95
CICF	\$279.69
Chatter: 11/00-10/01	\$993.62
Room Deposit for 1000th Mtg	\$500.00
2001 Banquet	\$1,503.18
	\$4,844.65

Income Allocations

Dues 2001	\$948.00
Dues 2002	\$514.00
Interest	\$170.46
Banquet 2001	\$1,038.50
Donations	\$453.00
Sale of Souviner Material	\$1,154.00
Auction	\$515.00
Undeposited Funds	\$260.77
	\$5,053.73

INTEREST

Dreyfus	\$68.75
Bank One	\$51.00
Bank One	\$50.71
	\$170.46

Compiled by Lyle Daly
Secretary/Treasurer

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*I have reviewed the Financial Records of the Chicago Coin Club for 2001.
Bank statements, receipts and Financial Statements as presented by the
Club Treasurer compare favorably.*

Steven Zitowsky

1000th Meeting Announcement



January 30, 2002

Dear Fellow Numismatist:

On April 6, 2002 the Chicago Coin Club will celebrate its 1000th meeting! This is a milestone few clubs achieve and we're planning to celebrate it in grand style!

The celebration will be held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair, April 5-7, Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL and various memorabilia are planned. A .999 fine 5-ounce silver medal (\$48 + \$11 for registered mail), a .999 fine 5-ounce silver medal with gold highlights (\$63 + \$11 for registered mail), and a 24-karat 8-ounce (approx.) gold medal (\$2600.00 + \$15 for registered mail) will be issued to honor the occasion. We'll hold a 1 PM meeting with Steve Album as the featured speaker who will speak on *The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650 - 1250 AD*. In keeping with tradition, the Club will present everyone who attends a handout dealing with primitive money. This year it will be the story of Gold Dust Money and it will include a few flakes of genuine gold!

The activities will culminate that evening at a banquet held in the hotel. A fabulous menu is planned and the featured speaker will be Dr. Ute Wartenberg, Executive Director of the American Numismatic Society, New York. She will speak on *Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the Ancient World*. Banquet tickets are sold on a reservation basis and are available at \$45.

Please don't wait until April 6th to buy a ticket - it may be too late. Check out our Web site www.chicagocoinclub.org for latest updates.

A souvenir program is also planned that we feel collectors will keep for years to come. Everyone at the banquet will receive one and copies will be mailed to the Club members who couldn't attend. They'll also be made available to every new member for years to come. It will include an updated history of the Club, the descriptive list of medals issued with photos, a roster of the Past-Presidents, Medal of Merit Recipients and the Club's Constitution and By-Laws.

Hence the reason for this letter. An event like this requires considerable resources and the Chicago Coin Club can use your support.

The organizing committee decided upon two methods of support. Congratulatory advertisements in the souvenir program are available at: full page \$100, half page \$50 and quarter page \$25. If you have questions or need help deciding how to word your ad, call Bill or Katie at 773-586-7666 - they'll be happy to help you. You can also e-mail your art to ChicagoCoin@worldnet.att.net and send it to William Burd's attention.

Also, the souvenir program will recognize those Patrons who helped support the day's events. The available levels of Patron support are: Platinum \$500, Gold \$100, Silver \$25 and Bronze \$10.

To ensure that you're properly recognized in this project, please be sure we have your response by March 15, 2002. It should be mailed to Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

Sincerely,

Carl F. Wolf
President

Mark Wieclaw
1000th Committee Chairman

Birthday and Year Joined

March 7	James R. Budd	1964
March 7	Bruno Rzepka	1968
March 14	Donald R. Srbeny	1987
March 16	Michael Brodsky	1991
March 16	Joseph T. Tomasko	1984
March 19	Charles Ricard	1963
March 20	Sidney Bick	1953
March 23	Eileen Peterson	1982
March 25	David B. Silberman	1971
March 29	Nancy Wilson	1984
March 31	Andrew E. Michyeta III	1984

Membership Note

The following members have not paid their 2001 dues even after being sent a personal letter in October by our Secretary. Do you know any of them? If you wish to telephone them, then do so now. A motion will be made at the February meeting to drop them from our membership rolls.

James Budd,	Florida
John Kasper,	Chicago
Al Sawyer,	California
David Skinner,	Chicago
Edward Stevens,	Chicago
William Swoger,	Michigan

Carl Wolf
President

Important Dates

- February 13** 997th CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Paul Hybert on *Learning from U.S. Mint Reports*
- March 1-3** 8th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.
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Featured Speaker - Fred Schwan on *New Discoveries in Military Payment Certificates*.
- March 13** 999th CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker *to be announced*
- March 16** Windy City Chip Show (Gaming chips and tokens) at the Elmhurst Holiday Inn, I-290 at York Road. Open from 9am until 4pm; 10-15 chip dealers expected. Admission is \$5. For more information, contact Joel Reznick at 847-971-7764.
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Chatter Matter

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Secretary and mailed to:

CHICAGO COIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2301
CHICAGO, IL 60690

Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daley
 William Burd
 Jeff Rosinia
 Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daley - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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March, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 3

March 2002

Speaker's Wor[l]d **Learning from Early U.S. Mint Reports**

Presented by Paul Hybert to our February 13, 2002 meeting.

Many specialized books and journals are available to the collectors of the early US copper and silver coinage. Although these published works rely heavily upon such primary sources as internal Mint records now kept in government archives in Philadelphia and Washington, contemporary diaries and newspapers also provide many fascinating stories of how people viewed their circulating money. This program reviewed another source of mint information, the Mint reports of the first hundred years.

The format of the reports evolved over time; from a number of specialized reports issued during the year up to the four hundred plus page annual reports by the 1890s. At the risk of over simplification (and offending lawyers by ignoring the judicial branch of the US government), here is the structure of the US government: Congress (the Legislative branch) passes a law, and the President and cabinet (the Executive branch) implements the law. Many laws place some reporting requirement upon some government department, to report on either the ongoing operation of the department or some special circumstance that Congress wishes investigated.

The first report shown was a photocopy of Paramount International Coin Corporation's reprint of the 1796 mint report. The first three pages trace this report's original path:

- ☐ November 29, 1796 - from Mint Director Elias Boudinot to the Secretary of State, intended for the President;
- ☐ December 19, 1796 - from Secretary of State Timothy Pickering, at the direction of President Washington, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

- December 20, 1796 - referred to Mr Page, Mr. Havens, and Mr. Goodrich;
- February 13, 1797 - committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next;
- December 8, 1797 - committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

Why would the Secretary of State be involved with a Mint report? Because the Mint was a part of that department originally (and the Coast Guard is part of the Treasury department).

The early reports contain some recurring topics; such as learning the business of running a Mint while fending off Congress' attempts at privatizing the Mint. The Mint officials were not stupid; they were running the Mint under policies created by Congress, and when a procedure was found to be awkward or inefficient the Mint would petition Congress to change that procedure. Consider this one example; the mint was to give to a depositor the gold and silver coins produced from that depositor's bullion, but the Mint also was to keep pieces for examination of the Assay Commission. This angered the depositors who did not receive the full coinage due to them.

An original of the sparse six-page report for 1816 was shown next. The recent completion of a brick building, the recent substitution of a steam-engine for horse-power, and the increased bullion deposits presaged good things in the future. It was better to look to the future than dwell on a year in which the Mint had expenses of \$18,242 and produced only \$56,785.57 in silver and copper coins. (However, it must be remembered that the War of 1812 had recently concluded.)

As with everything, time takes its toll on an institution's memory. The original reports were published in small amounts for the country was still small; many original members of Congress (from 1789) were gone; and many copies of reports were lost. Some efforts were made to correct this. In 1813, Congress required the printing of its business papers; starting in 1817, this Serial Set continues today. In 1831, Congress decided to publish all of its old reports in a set of volumes known as *American State Papers*. Co-edited by Walter Lourie, Secretary of the Senate, and Matthew St. Clair of the House of Representatives, the resulting 38 volumes were printed by Gales and Seaton of Washington, from 1832 to 1861. material was grouped by topic into ten Classes, with documents consecutively numbered within each volume. Documents directly related to the Mint can be found in the five volumes of Class 3 - Finance. Most of the original edition of 750 sets, with marbled

boards and leather binding (and trim), was given to Congress for distribution back home. Although the original outside typically succumbed to the combination of heavy use and their large size (about 1000 pages in an 8½ inch by 13 inch volume), the pages usually are sound but may show some toning. The shown Volume 2 was still intact but a number of pages had leaf shaped stains; this poor volume had, at one time, been used to press tree leaves, and a few leaves were still there.

The next few reports, from the 1840s and 1850s, were all disbound from volumes of the Serial Set mentioned above. For example, the report for 1853 consisted of 18 pages, 5½ by 9 inches in size, and was identified as "33rd Congress, 1st Session, Ex. Doc. No. 40, of the House of Representatives." (The Ex. Doc. No. abbreviates Executive Document Number; the documents were consecutively numbered within each session of Congress. Each "congress" would meet for two one-year sessions.)

Up through 1856, each annual report covered one calendar year, but starting with 1857, each report covered one government fiscal year. Fiscal year 1863 started on July 1, 1862 and ended on June 30, 1863. Although that made sense from a business standpoint, it could confuse the unwary collector, who collected coins by calendar year; the Mint the first spent half of FY 1863 minting coins dated 1862, and the the last half minting coins dated 1863. It would not be until late in the nineteenth century that the Mint would publish tables showing coin production by calendar years in addition to fiscal year.

Originally, many short reports were issued during the course of a year, often in response to a specific request from Congress. A typical requested report showed the fineness and weights of foreign gold and silver coins, along with their value in US money. Recall that certain foreign coins were legal tender in the US during the first half of the nineteenth century. Congress used these reports to determine which foreign coins were legal tender.

Although some collected reports from a given year are to be found, it was not until 1873 that the first of the large reports (more than one hundred pages) in black cloth covers would be produced. Within 15 years, 400-page reports would be the norm, filled with many types of information.

A number of recurring themes appear in the reports of the first hundred years. It is fascinating to see how the increasing US domestic gold production impacted the Mint. Nearly a third of the two-page report for 1829 was spent reviewing it, from the first \$11,000 of North Carolina gold received in 1804 up to the "remarkable increases" culminating in the \$128,000 received in

1829. The resulting strains placed on the Mint would be repeated on a larger scale after 1848 with California gold the cause. (California gold would be coined into more than \$200,000,000 by the end of 1853.)

The talk concluded with just two of the many interesting pieces to be found in the reports. First was a table from 1863, showing the number of old Large Cents annually returned to the mint starting in 1857 when the first small cents were minted (very sad for this EAC member). Second was about the San Francisco mint in the 1886 report; describing how, after seven years of service, the old carpet in the planchet adjusting room had been torn up, burned, and refined to produce about 172 ounces of gold and 44 ounces of silver.

A project to put the early Mint reports onto the web is still in its early stages, and is at <http://www.ece.iit.edu/~prh/coins/lib/usmnt/mr.html>. Read and enjoy!

Our 998th Meeting

Date: March 2, 2002

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: 8th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission to the meeting is free, but admission to the show is \$5.

Featured speaker: Fred Schwan - *New Discoveries in Military Payment Certificates*

Originally published in 1980, Fred Schwan's *Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates* just had its fourth edition released. So many new discoveries have been uncovered that it includes 108 additional pages over the third edition. Join us as Schwan will reveal new research and tell stories of these new findings. He is also donating three copies of his new book to be used as door prizes.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Chicago Coin Club will present everyone in attendance with a souvenir card dealing with Chicago numismatic history. This year the National Bank Notes of the First National Bank of Chicago will be covered.

Our 999th Meeting

Date: March 13, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Sharon Blocker - *I've Been Working on the Railroad*
Although her railroad collection started about 20 years ago with paper items such as postcards, books, and other exnumia, the collecting bug bit again when Sharon encountered railroad themed world currency at a currency show. She has since started a collection of world currency and coins with railroads on them. Sharon will take you around the globe and show you her examples of railroadania. The title "I've been working on the railroad", means that this is still a work in progress.

Birthday and Year Joined

April 1	Charles J. Ryant, Jr.	
April 12	Mark Wieclaw	1991
April 15	Robert D. Leonard, Jr.	1983
April 15	Charles Menard	1995
April 18	Nancy Walsh	1997
April 27	Don Valenziano	1982

1000th Meeting Announcement



On April 6, 2002 the Chicago Coin Club will celebrate its 1000th meeting! This is a milestone few clubs achieve and we're planning to celebrate it in grand style!

The celebration will be held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair, April 5-7, Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL and various memorabilia are planned. The following medals will be issued to honor the occasion:

- ☐ A .999 fine 5-ounce silver medal (\$48 + \$11 for registered mail).
- ☐ A .999 fine 5-ounce silver medal with gold highlights (\$63 + \$11 for registered mail). (Available only by orders with payment received by March 15.)
- ☐ and a 24-karat 8-ounce (approx.) gold medal (\$2700.00 + \$15 for registered mail). The price is based upon gold at \$297 per ounce when the club orders the medals from the mint; price adjustments will be made. (Available only by orders with payment received by March 15.)

We'll hold a 1 PM meeting with Steve Album as the featured speaker who will speak on *The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650 - 1250 AD*. In keeping with tradition, the Club will present everyone who attends a handout dealing with primitive money. This year it will be the story of Gold Dust Money and it will include a few flakes of genuine gold!

The activities will culminate that evening at a banquet held in the hotel. A

fabulous menu is planned and the featured speaker will be Dr. Ute Wartenberg, Executive Director of the American Numismatic Society, New York. She will speak on *Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the Ancient World*. Banquet tickets are sold on a reservation basis and are available at \$45. A cash bar will open at 6 PM, and the banquet will start at 7 PM. The menu is a choice of Grilled Herb Marinated Salmon, or Citrus Marinated Grilled Breast of Chicken; please make checks payable to "Chicago Coin Club" and mail them, along with your menu choice, to the club's P.O. Box listed below. Please don't wait until April 6th to buy a ticket - it may be too late. Check out our Web site www.chicagocoinclub.org for latest updates. Each guest will receive a special parking pass with a reduced rate of \$6, instead of \$11, good at the hotel parking lot.

A souvenir program is also planned that we feel collectors will keep for years to come. Everyone at the banquet will receive one and copies will be mailed to the Club members who couldn't attend. They'll also be made available to every new member for years to come. It will include an updated history of the Club, the descriptive list of medals issued with photos, a roster of the Past-Presidents, Medal of Merit Recipients and the Club's Constitution and By-Laws.

- ☐ The organizing committee decided upon two methods of support. Congratulatory advertisements in the souvenir program are available at: full page \$100, half page \$50 and quarter page \$25. If you have questions or need help deciding how to word your ad, call Bill or Katie at 773-586-7666 - they'll be happy to help you. You can also e-mail your art to ChicagoCoin@worldnet.att.net and send it to William Burd's attention.
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 - ☐ To ensure that you're properly recognized in this project, please be sure we have your response by March 15, 2002. It should be mailed to Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.
-

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Sharon Blocker** started the program by discussing one of her favorite topics, bi-metallic coins. Although a few such pieces were struck through the years, it was only within the last 20 years that the production of bi-metallic and even tri-metallic coins became common around the world. The pieces of different metals are made separately, and it is the actual coin striking process which forces the parts together while transferring the design. A very striking design is on the 12-sided 25 kuna piece from Croatia. Dated 2000, the baby-in-womb design signifies the rebirth of the country.
2. Ancient coins of the Parthians and Sakas were brought by **Bob Weinstein**:
 - Imitation of Parthian drachm of Phraates III. Struck by local Saka rulers in Eastern Iran and Pakistan. The coin was countermarked by Tanlis Mardates, a Saka king, possibly ruler of the Sakaraukai. The countermark is inscribed with the king's name in Greek (TANLHC) and has a bust facing left wearing a hat. For nearly one hundred years the name had been misread as Otannes (OTANNHC). This mistake was due to a round ball which is part of the hat which was misread as O. Despite better quality specimens coming to light over the years no one challenged the original reading for 92 years. Tanlis countermarked Parthian drachms and local copies for many years before commencing a coinage of his own. The countermarking probably began in the reign of Phraates III (70-57 BCE) and continued into the reign of Phraates IV (38-2 BCE). Imitation Phraates III drachms are the most common of the countermarked coins. The countermarked drachms of Phraates IV are the rarest being known from only two examples. The coinage Tanlis issued in his own name is quite scarce and probably was struck for a short period at the end of the first century BCE.
 - Parthian drachm of Phraates IV, countermarked by Tanlis Mardates. Note the eagle behind the bust. This is one of two known examples.
 - Drachm of Tanlis Mardates with Lady Raggodeme. Obverse portrays bust of Tanlis right wearing distinctive Saka helmet

with streamers. Reverse portrays bust of Lady Raggodeme right. Legends on both sides are in Greek.



- Imitation of a drachm of Phraates IV of Parthian with false countermark engraved in the die. These were struck by local Saka rulers in N/W Iran and Central Asia. Probably contemporary with the coins they imitated. (38-2 BCE)
- Tetradrachm of the Saka King Vonones with his nephew Spalagadames as co-ruler. Vonones ruled a kingdom in Afghanistan and is only known from his coins. Since there are no historical references to him only an approximate date for his rule can be given (75-65 BCE). Tetradrachms of Vonones with Spalagadames are scarce. This particular one has a rare control mark. It is one of only two known examples. The obverse portrays the king on horseback with lance with Greek legend. The reverse portrays Zeus standing holding scepter and thunderbolts with Kharosthi legend.



3. Carl Wolf brought in a variety of items.

- After learning about it in last year's CICF handout, Carl saw obsidian mentioned in a number of places, even in the October issue of *National Geographic*.

- A prototype of the ANA Presidential Award, featuring an encased printing of the *History Instructing Youth* vignette originally on 1896 US paper money.
 - His latest installment in his displays of Odd and Curious money shows the beautiful antique game counters hand-carved from mother-of-pearl. They were made into ovals, rectangles, circles, squares and even fish shapes. The earliest counters were made about 1730 - 1770 and were plain with little decoration. Made in China they were exported as early as the 1700s to the Europe and America. They appear on the ship manifest of the merchant ship Empress of China that returned to New York and Philadelphia in 1785 after her maiden voyage to Canton. By the early 19th century thicker shells were used to accommodate more elaborate engravings. Pierced borders were introduced in the early 1800s. Counterfeiting was very difficult so by the late 19th century some private casinos used mother-of-pearl tokens.
4. Eight coins featuring the "grandmother of Europe" were brought by **Steve Huber**. When queen Victoria died in 1901 at 81 years of age, she was, through her nine children and many grandchildren, related to most of Europe's crowned heads of state. The coins shown were:
- Seven proof patterns of 1848 florins. There are 30 types known, consisting of 27 regular patterns and three mules of various reverse pairs.
 - A proof 1847 gothic crown. Although most pieces are known with marks from misguided attempts at polishing and cleaning, this darkly toned piece shows no scratches or hairlines.
- Steve then admitted to having problems making good pictures of coins with a digital camera, and would like to share ideas and discuss the matter with other photographers.
5. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some ancient and modern items.
- A rare denarius of Gallienus (253-268). Usually antoninianni are encountered from this emperor.



- A *dichalkon* of Euthydemos II of Baktri (190-171 B.C.); this is the only ancient coin with a significant nickel content (about

30%).

- ☐ A dark, ugly, and unmarked bar of 0.897 fine silver, weighing more than 100 ounces. A US government produced bar from 1968, it was used to redeem silver certificates.
- 6. At a recent local auction, **Mike Metras** found himself on the sideline while US coins were selling for high, not reasonable price. And then there were two pieces of fractional currency.
 - ☐ A three cent note from the 3rd series, in 1864.
 - ☐ A fifty cent Confederate note of 1864.
- 7. During his 2000 trip to Syria, **Bob Leonard** visited a collector in Aleppo. Bob was given this gold coin, weighing 3,814 grams, and was asked to identify it. The curator of Islamic coins at the British Museum could not identify it, but Michael Bates of ANS identified it. Described in detail by a contemporary writer, it was minted in Damascus for a few years starting in 530 AH. Originally produced of seven eighths pure gold and one eighth silver and copper, the ANS has only a fake, a gold plated copper piece.
- 8. **Bill Swoger** showed a variety of medals.
 - ☐ A large oval bronze medal, made in Hungary to honor veterans of World War I.
 - ☐ A bronze medal from the 1962 Seattle World's Fair.
 - ☐ An award medal from the 1893 Columbian Exhibition. Awarded to George Whitting for displaying Indian corn of all varieties, Bill conjectured that its pristine condition may be due to disgust; the roster of the fair's medal winners lists his name as Whiting, and who wants to show a medal with his name misspelled?
- 9. **Bob Feiler** started by telling of his enjoyable trip to Paul Bosco's shop while in New York recently. He then continued his exhibiting theme of *objects made from coins*:
 - ☐ 1887 British Double Florin, enameled in six different colors and mounted on a pin.
 - ☐ 1845 British Crown, enameled in five different colors and mounted on a pin.
 - ☐ 1797 British two pence box coin.
 - ☐ 1 3/4 inch diameter box medal marked Roma; made of tin, showing Romulus and Remus on one side. Containing 18 black & white sepia toned very early (late 1800s) photos of Rome and famous sites.
 - ☐ Coin (stack) box made to look like a stack of eight French five franc coins. Obverse inscribed Liberty Equality and Fraternity. Reverse appears to be like a coin and is dated 1875. Acquired on eBay, Bob thanked the club member who told him of the item.

- Very small (5/8-inch X 1-inch) brass book which, when opened up, reveals 8 black & white prints of Napoleonic scenes.
10. Last month, **Don Dool** showed the first pieces in his South American scripophily collection. He started this month by showing the fifth piece in that collection, a certificate for 20 pesos gold dated 1 July 1899 at Montevideo. One of 1000 issued for *Mineria Uruguay*, it has four revenue stamps on back. He then showed some medieval copper pieces:
- Anhalt, 1621, Pfennig, Mann 175. (J. Mann. *Anhaltische Münzen und Medaillen von Ende des 15 Jahrhunderts bis 1906*, Hannover, 1907).
 - Mansfeld-Vorderortische, 1622, 3 Pfennig, Tornau 467. (Tornau, Otto. Prague, 1937).



- Maestricht - siege, 1579, 8 Sols, Attributions: Duby VIII, 5; Mailet pg. 298, #3.2; Neumann II 12643. Obv: Plumed helmet atop shield dividing date, 79. PROTEge Domine POPVlvm TVvm PROPTer NOminis TVI GLORiam. (Protect, o Lord, your people for the glory of your name). Rev: Hand holding sword. TRAIECto AB HIS PAN IS OBS ESS (Besieged by the Spaniards necessity), value VIII below. Duby references his information on this piece to the cabinet of M. Aumont. Values of XXXX, XXIII, II and I sols also struck, all in copper.



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Chatter Matter

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CHICAGO, IL 60690**

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Club Officers

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Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

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 Jeff Rosinia
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Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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April, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 4

April 2002

Minutes of the 997th Meeting

The 997th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on February 13, 2002 at 7:03PM by President Carl Wolf. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the January meeting minutes as they appeared in the *Chatter*.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly gave a treasury report as follows:

Dreyfus Money Market	\$1837.22
Bank One CD	1408.09
Bank One CD	1405.88
TCF Checking Account	9104.70
Un-deposited Funds	3223.00
TOTAL	\$16,978.99

Vice President Bob Feiler introduced our featured speaker Paul Hybert and his topic *Learning from Early US Mint Reports*. Paul presented several volumes and excerpts of mint reports for the group's inspection. He is in the process of placing the reports on the web for public access. Paul figuratively walked the club through his efforts to correlate the documentation of the mint with contemporary historical events. One example he used was the relatively small receipts for gold in 1848 compared to the monumental increases recorded in 1849 and 1850 that reflect the influx of gold from the California Gold Rush.

Vice President Bob Feiler thanked Paul for his presentation and awarded the featured speakers medal & and the educational certificate to Paul.

Two guests were present: Andrius Plioplys and John Scriner.

Don Dool announced there were 10 show & tell presenters:

- Sharon Blocker - bimetallic coins
- Bob Weinstein - Saka coins (Roman rivals)
- Carl Wolf - Obsidian money, ANA presidential medal & Mother of Pearl Gambling chips
- Steve Huber - Proof Florin Patterns (WOW!)
- Mark Weiclaw - 2 ancient coins and a silver bar and the equivalent in US Silver Certificates
- Mike Metras - Unoin & Confederate Fractional Currency
- Robert Leonard - Gold Dinar
- Bill Swooger - WWI medal, Columbian Exposition medal, and Seattle Worlds Fair medal
- Bob Feiler - Enameled Florin, 1845 British Crown, 1797 2Pence Box Coin, 8 Frank Box Medal & Napolconic brass miniature picture frame
- Don Dool - South American Scripopoly, 2 German Copper coins 1621 & 1622, and 1879 Siege coin

Old Business:

Carl Wolf reminded the club that next meeting will be held at the CPMX show on March 2 at the Holiday Inn, 5440 N River Road, Rosemont. The featured speaker will be Fred Schwan who will present *New Discoveries in Military Payment Certificates*. Three copies of Fred Schwan's new book will be given away as door prizes. Jeff Rosinia advised the club that the souvenir sheet will be available for \$5 after the meeting but free to all attendees. The notes had to be reduced in size to fit on the sheet and conform to Treasury requirements.

The 1000th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club will be held on April 6th at 1PM during the Chicago International Coin Fair held at the Holiday Inn 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont. We will have a Primitive Money Give away: *Gold Dust Currency* - prepared by Bob Leonard. The Speaker will be Steve Album and he will present *Development of Islamic Coinage 650-1250 AD*.

The Banquet for the 1000th meeting will be held at the same location and date at 7:00pm. Reservation and prepayment of \$45 per person are required. The speaker will be ANS Executive Director Dr. Ute Wartenberg who will speak on the *Owls of Athens*.

1000th Meeting Committee Chairman Mark Weiclaw reported that medals

for the 1000th meeting will be available in 5oz silver for \$45, silver with gold trim for \$55. Delivery by registered mail will be an additional \$11 for each. Gold 8 oz medals were available at \$2600 each but due to increases in gold are now priced at \$2700 for future orders. Delivery by registered mail is an additional \$15.

Sharon Blocker reported that invitations for the 1000th meeting banquet have been sent. RSVP's are due March 14 and we must submit a first count to the banquet hall that day.

Bill Burd discussed the souvenir program. Congratulatory advertising is available at \$100 for full page, \$50 for half page and \$25 for a quarter page. Patronage levels of donations are Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze at \$500, \$100, \$25 and \$10 respectively.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to drop the membership of all unpaid members from the club's 2001 roster.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the 2001 year end financial statement for the club as published in the *Chatter*.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Minutes of the 998th Meeting

The 998th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was held in conjunction with the Chicago Paper Money Exposition, Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL. The meeting was called to order by President Carl Wolf at 1PM with fifty members and guests present.

President Wolf welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the procedure if any guest wanted to become a member. He spoke of the plans for the upcoming 1000th Meeting Celebration to be held April 6th, including the commemorative medal, afternoon session with Steve Album as speaker, the primitive money educational hand-out and the evening banquet with Dr. Ute Wartenberg as the featured speaker. He also gave specific instructions for anyone interested in participating.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced the featured speaker Fred Schwan of Port Clinton, Ohio. Mr. Schwan is one of the foremost experts in the area of Military Payment Certificates (MPC) and has authored hundreds of articles on the subject. He is the recipient of numerous literary awards from the American Numismatic Association, the Numismatic Literary Guild, and International Banknote Society, to name a few. Schwan had just released at the show the fourth edition of the definitive book on the subject *The Comprehensive Catalog of Military Payment Certificates*.

Schwan's talk centered around the new discoveries found over the past few years. This is primarily the result of previously unknown multiple printings and the resultant understanding of how they occurred. He also shared his experience with MPCs in Vietnam and how the money was spent off the base. During an extended question-and-answer session he spoke about counterfeiting, research at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, coupons issued in Vietnam for the Korean and Thai troops, and an explanation on how the U.S. soldiers in Bosnia used debit cards instead of military currency.

Schwan donated three of his new books for door prizes that were won by Robert Feiler, Bruno Rzepka and Nancy Wilson. Everyone in attendance received a souvenir sheet with an educational article written by member Jeff Rosinia on the national banknotes issued by the First National Bank of Chicago.

The meeting was adjourned at 2PM.

Sincerely Submitted,
Carl Wolf
President & Acting Minutes Secretary

Minutes of the 999th Meeting

President Carl Wolf called the 999th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order March 13, 2002 at 7 PM with fifteen members present.

First VP Robert Feiler introduced the evening's featured speaker Sharon Blocker who spoke on the subject *I've Been Working on the Railroad*. Sharon was assisted by her husband Kevin and explained that they got started collecting numismatic railroad material because Kevin's grandfather was a chef on the Santa Fe Railroad. She entertained everyone by showing rail

tickets that look like banknotes and a wide selection of banknotes and coins from all over the world. Among the more fascinating pieces was the Albanian 50 Leke 10-ounce silver coin showing a train coming out of a tunnel on the obverse and a rear view of the same train coming out of the tunnel. What made it impressive was the half-moon cutout for the tunnel. After a question-and-answer period, Feiler presented Sharon with an engraved speaker's medal and an ANA Educational Certificate.

The exhibitors for the evening were: Mike Metras: two banknotes showing trains - a \$2.00 note from 1856 from the Exchange Bank, Hartford, Connecticut and a \$50.00 note from 1840(?) from the Merchant Bank, Augusta, Georgia; and a 1743 cob real, Lima, Peru; and an Athenian tetradrachm copy of the Gallery Mint. Robert Feiler: an Athenian tetradrachm (449-413BC) purchased at the recent CPMX; an 1862 \$5.00 note from Manufacturer's Bank of Georgia; a \$100.00 stock certificate from the Chicago & South Western Railroad; a punch canceled and uncut sheet of \$10.00 & \$20.00 notes from the New England Bank, Fairmount, Maine; CCC 1000th Meeting 8 ounce gold piece. Mark Wieclaw: an 1876-H large Canadian Cent, slabbed and graded MS65; an antoniniani of Emperor Aurelian (AD 270-275) struck at the Milan mint with brockage; a denari of Emperor Caracalla (AD 198) with brockage; a 1932 bond coupon sheet redeemable in \$15.00 in gold coin and issued by the Stanley Apartments, Chicago. Robert Leonard: a gold "H-shaped" ingot from Africa, sold in the Howard Gibbs collection January, 1971, and believed to have monetary use 500-700 years ago. Steve Huber: two German presentation sets struck in 1913 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the defeat of Napoleon - one made up of 3 medals and 2 coins and the other a 2 coin set; and examples of his success with coin photography with new lighting and different settings. Sharon Blocker: 1000-franc note from Madagascar, 10-gulden note from Netherlands with a hologram, bar code and Braille raised imprint, 50-dong note from Vietnam with Mylar, a 1973 10-bolivares Republic of Venezuela commemorating the 100th anniversary of Simon Bolivar portrait on their coinage and a uniface 100-year service medal for railroadmen. Carl Wolf: Venetian green-heart trade beads from the 15th-17th century and used as money especially in the New World; and a \$100.00 "Good For" token from the Medalcraft Mint, Green Bay, Wisconsin. Robert Weinstein: bullet style coinage from Thailand and Sumatra with a discussion of the various styles. Donald Dool: a brass round "TUIT" issued by PMI, Cleveland, Ohio; a 1549 kreuzer of Nuenburg; Cottbus, an undated pfenning issued 1622; mining company stock certificates from Companhia das Minas De Carvao de Pedra Arroio dos Ratos, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1884) and Compania Can Vicente de Bolivia, issued in Huachaca, Bolivia (1887); and seven celluloid buttons

issued by the Central Bank of Argentina to promote numismatic events.

Under old business Jeff Rosinia received a round of applause for writing the history of the recently issued souvenir card the Club gave to everyone attending the 998th meeting at the Chicago Paper Money Exposition. Everyone was reminded of the upcoming events scheduled for the 1000th Meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer stated that as of that evening paid reservations for 37 people have been received for the banquet, and paid orders have been received for 34 silver medals, 23 gold select (silver with gold highlights) and 6 gold medals. Chairman Mark Wieclaw explained to everyone that the \$2700.00 price on the gold is still an estimate and if the market price goes down a refund will be made. President Wolf announced that a supply of new business cards showing the Club's new Web address was available and members were encouraged to take a supply. After discussion, separate motions were made and passed to 1) put a silver and gold select medal into the Club's archives; 2) present William Spencer, the medals distributor, with a silver medal in appreciation for all his work and effort; and 3) to present the banquet speaker, Ute Wartenberg, with a silver medal in addition to the Club's standard engraved speaker's medal and ANA educational certificate.

President Wolf reminded everyone that it wasn't too late to become a patron or to recruit patrons. The Secretary-Treasurer announced as of that evening \$850.00 had been collected and two full-pages, one half-page and 2 quarter-pages of advertising had been sold.

Nothing was brought up under new business. During the open discussion, Mark Wieclaw brought up the recent news concerning the U.S. Mail being subjected to high levels of irradiation to kill biological agents. He cited cases where encased, high-grade coins were ruined when the plastic slab melted. The Post Offices in and around Washington D.C. were the biggest users of this radiation. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carl F. Wolf
President and Acting Secretary

Important Dates

April 5-7 27th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.

Our April meeting will consist of two sessions on the same day: an afternoon session and an evening (banquet) session.

April 6 1000th CCC Meeting (session #1) - 1pm at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.

Featured Speaker - Steve Album on *The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650 - 1250 AD*.

April 6 1000th CCC Meeting (session #2) - Banquet meeting at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Reservations (\$45 per person) required.

Featured Speaker - Dr. Ute Wartenberg, Executive Director of the American Numismatic Society, on *Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the Ancient World*.

May 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Bruno Rzepka on *to be announced*

June 28-30 21st Annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.

Our 1000th Meeting Session One

Date: April 6, 2002

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: 27th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont.
Admission to the meeting is free, but admission to the show is \$5.

Featured speaker: Steve Album of Santa Rosa, California - *The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650-1250 AD*

Today, newspapers and television showcase many Islamic history programs. But what most coin collectors don't know is that Islam did not strike distinctive religious coins during its early years.

For the first seventy years Islamic coins imitated the Byzantine and Sasanian coinage. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting and hear Album tell the story of this unique time in history. He published *A Checklist of Islamic Coins*, now in its second edition, and is currently a senior fellow at Worcester College, Oxford, England and in this position he began publishing the first of ten volumes of a Sylloge of Islamic Coins in the Ashmolean (Museum) in 1999. Volume 2 of this impressive work has just been printed and is now available.

For the fourteenth successive year the Chicago Coin Club will also present every attendee with an educational card dealing with some area of primitive money. Researched and written by Robert D. Leonard, Jr., the 2002 issue will cover *Gold Dust Currency* and each souvenir card will include genuine gold dust. History is sprinkled with stories of gold dust being used as money including California in the 1850s, Georgia in the 1830s and as recently as the 1980s in the Amazon Rain Forest in Brazil. Perhaps the most enduring example is the gold dust system used for over 1,000 years by the Ashanti tribe in Ghana, Africa. Only 150 copies printed and extra copies will be sold for \$5.00 + \$1.00 for postage.

Our 1000th Meeting Session Two

Date: April 6, 2002

Time: 6PM to 7PM reception and cash bar
7PM to 9 PM Dinner and Meeting

Location: 27th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the
Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont.

Menu: The featured menu is a choice of Grilled Herb Marinated
Salmon, or Citrus Marinated Grilled Breast of Chicken. Banquet
tickets are sold on a reservation basis and are available at \$45.
Those who want to attend should send a check payable to
Chicago Coin Club, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

Featured speaker: Dr. Ute Wartenberg, Executive Director of the American
Numismatic Society - *Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the
Ancient World*

Formerly the Assistant Keeper and Curator of Greek Coins at the
British Museum, Wartenberg wrote the book *After Marathon -
War, Society and Money in Fifth-Century Greece*. In it she
describes the political and economic world of ancient Greece,
under the leadership of Athens, as reflected in their coinage.
Athenians referred to their coins as "owls" because of the
common reverse design showing an owl, the symbol for Athena
the patron goddess of Athens. Those who attend this presentation
will enjoy the slides of these magnificent and miniature
masterpieces from the British Museum and the ANS cabinet.

Speaker's Worl[d **I've Been Working on the Railroad**

Presented by Sharon Blocker to our March 13, 2002 meeting.

Sharon and her husband Kevin started collecting railroad related items many years ago. The fact that Kevin's grandfather, Henry Fauser, had worked 43 years on the Santa Fe railroad probably helped in that decision.

The collection started with postcards, and grew to 4000 cards relating to lines all over the world before the decision to concentrate on the Santa Fe railroad. The collection took a new turn once they discovered railroad themed numismatic items. Blame it all on that piece of Caribbean currency found while attending a coin show!

Many countries have issued coins and currency picturing trains, but the US has issued only one such note; the 1914 series \$20. However, many private US banks of the 1800s did picture trains on their notes; club members like viewing those notes - there is something about those primitive wood- and coal-burning engines that fascinates us.

An 1873 Mississippi Central \$3 piece at first appeared to be a bank note, but closer examination showed it to be a **train ticket** with a face value of three dollars. These "train bank" notes were a dodge around the tax needed on private bank notes.

Worldwide paper money is a great hunting ground for railroad related pieces. In addition to the obvious pieces featuring a train as the main element, many notes include a train or equipment in the background; the hunt for those notes requires the examination of **all** pieces in a dealer's stock, no matter how topically arranged they may be. And do not forget to check the back side!

A beautiful note from China showed a train along a freighter in a dock side scene. A piece from Uganda showed a train being pushed onto a ferry, a piece from Mozambique showed a coal mine train, and a Fijian piece showed a sugar field train. And for a subtle combination, an Eritrean piece showed a truck pulling train cars atop a large bridge. Or the piece from Pakistan with just a train tunnel; no train.

The earliest coin shown was a 1937 200 Reis from Brazil, showing a small

engine. Obviously circulated as intended, many of the later train coins were issued mainly for collectors; characterized by proof strikes of high denominations. The Canadian pieces showed this quite well - starting with two recent proof holographic \$20 coins, then the dollars from 1981 and 1986. However, a 1999 train quarter was struck for circulation.

Some commemoratives have honored local railroad history, such as the 1998 150th anniversary of the first train in Slovakia, and the silver 1997 piece for 125 years of Lichtenstein railroads. But some pieces produced a few negative observations from the audience, such as two Isle of Mann pieces; the Australian Bicentennial piece featured a large dingo in the foreground with a small train in the background, while a "discovery of America" piece featured the classic scene at Promontory Point on the first US transcontinental railroad.

In 1988, Albania issued three coins with the same basic design. The 5 *leke* for circulation, a proof 50 *leke*, and a proof piedfort 50 *leke*. Only the proof 50 *leke* has the halfmoon shaped hole that grabs your attention; each side shows a train extending from a tunnel, and the hole is the tunnel above the train. The audience liked this piece.

When collecting in such a large, ever expanding area, put what **you** want into your collection; whatever moves you. The Blockers included ten US \$10 gold coins dated 1913-1915 as railroad related items. Now these are family heirlooms, but at one time they were in the Santa Fe pay envelope for Kevin's grandfather. Sharon closed by recounting a trip to the train museum in Union, Illinois. While looking through some books for sale, they found *The Super Chief... Train of the Stars* by Stan Repp, which included a dining car description which mentioned Chef Henry Fauser, Kevin's grandfather!

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Mike Metras** started us off with some obsolete notes picturing trains, acquired at the recent CPMX.

- ☐ A \$1 note from the Exchange Bank of Hartford, 1856.
- ☐ A \$50 note from the Mechanics Bank of Georgia, 1840, featuring a train from the late 1830s.
- ☐ A one Real cob, dated 1743, from either Potosi or Lima, Peru. If you know what to look for, much more than initially meets the eye can be identified on such a piece.



- ☐ An Athenian owl reproduction from the Gallery Mint.



2. Also showing acquisitions from the CPMX was **Bob Feiler** with:

- ☐ A genuine Athenian tetradrachm (owl) from 449-413 BC.
- ☐ A May 1, 1862, \$5 obsolete bank note from the Manufacturer's Bank of Georgia with heavy green overprint featuring a large central vignette of a semi clad allegorical woman reclining on the wings of an eagle. The eagle is holding what appears to be the American Flag in its mouth.
- ☐ A very colorful unissued Blue with orange/gold overprint 1800s stock certificate from Chicago & South Western Railway Company from the states of Iowa and Missouri. Large central vignette of a steam locomotive. Lower Left vignette features a union soldier holding an American flag with a banner above reading "our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain."
- ☐ A two note uncut remainder sheet of a \$10 and a \$20 note from the New England Bank in Fairmont, Maine. Ten dollar note features a very large vignette on the left of a family in an agricultural setting with field hands working in the background. The twenty dollar note features a seated Indian brave with headdress looking out across a river. Punch cancelled.
- ☐ The gold medal for our thousandth meeting.

3. **Mark Wieclaw** brought a variety of items.

- ☐ When he heard that a local dealer had acquired a group of slabbed Canadian Large Cents, Mark worked out a trade for the highest graded piece. This 1876-H (for Heaton Mint) Large Cent was acquired for forty pounds of miscellaneous foreign coins.
- ☐ An Anotininianus of Aurelian, this product of the Milan mint is a brockage.
- ☐ A denarius of Caracalla as Caesar, 195-198, with signs of its being a brockage, then struck over with the correct design; but Mark and Curtis Clay still are discussing it.



- ☐ A bond coupon from the Stanley Apartments in Chicago, for \$15 in gold. The parent bond was issued on April 1, 1927, just two and a half years before the Stock Market panic of 1929.

4. While researching African gold for the CICF handout, **Bob Leonard**

has learned more about a small H-shaped ingot from Great Zimbabwe, 1100-1700. Acquired from the 1974 Schulman auction of the Howard Gibbs Collection where it was not pictured, it was illustrated in a Schulman 1974 fixed price list. Bob showed us some other Schulman catalogues which apparently use the same illustration, or can two such hand made pieces be so alike? Or maybe these pieces are not what they were claimed to be.

5. **Steve Huber** showed two presentation sets from 1913, celebrating the 100th anniversary of Napoleon's defeat. A number of medals and coins had been sold individually then, but complete original sets are not common now. One set contained 2 medals and 3 coins, while the other contained 2 coins.

Then Steve updated us on his attempts at coin photography with a digital camera. White paper from a photo supply shop diffuses the light from a halogen light to remove most hot spots (glare), and the output quality of personal color printers is very good. At first, the printed image color differed from the image color displayed on his monitor, but Steve fixed that by adjusting the monitor's settings until the displayed image matched the printed image. Now his printer output will match what he sees on the monitor.

6. **Sharon Blocker** showed a number of recent acquisitions:

- ☐ A 1000 franc note from Madagascar, with shell fish in a basket as a main design element.
- ☐ A 10 gulden note from Netherlands; not plastic, but not plain paper either, it has a hologram, bar code, and Braille.
- ☐ A 2001 50 dong mylar note from Vietnam.
- ☐ A 1973 10 bolivares coin from Venezuela.
- ☐ A 1987 uniface train medal; the reverse is suitable for engraving.

7. **Carl Wolf** continued some previous themes:

- ☐ Green Heart trade beads, made in Venice from the 15th to 17th centuries, were based upon a design from India. But the Venetians soon "owned" the world bead market due to their production skill and maritime resources. The core is a deep green but appears black unless seen under a strong light, and this was one of the early trade beads of the Hudson Bay Trading Company and was known as "Old Hudson Bay Beads."
- ☐ A \$100 token from the Medalcraft Mint of Green Bay, but good towards only custom design charges. Still, not a common denomination.

8. **Bob Weinstein** showed a sampling of the bullet money from Southeast Asia. These Thai silver pieces from the 13th through 19th

centuries have a distinctive shape; start with a silver ingot in the shape of a bread loaf, then fold it in the middle so that both ends face up, side by side. The first piece included the "nah" character used on Shreva Jaya (modern day Indonesia and Malaysia) coins, so Bob mentioned this might have been occupation money issued by Thai forces.

Next was a crude imitation, having only a weak chisel mark as an attempt at the charactersitic crease; and plated too. Fourre bullet money?

Last was a cast, base metal piece; not exactly bullet money. Typical of pieces available in many sizes, Bob hopes to have its metal content analyzed. Were they monetary, or votive pieces?

9. The program concluded with **Don Dool** showing pieces acquired on a recent trip to Argentina:

- ☐ How did this "round TUIT" from Cleveland, Ohio end up in Argentina? Some members explained their purpose to Don and the rest of us.



- ☐ Neuchatel (Ncuenburg), 1549, kreuzer. Copper or billon. Obv: HE AV DVX LONG D G PRI NOVICAS. Rev: OCVLI DOMNI ET PAX SVP IVSTOS (The Lord's eyes and peace are upon the righteous). Ruled by counts and princes of the de Longueville family, Francis ruled from 1537 to 1551.
- ☐ Cottbus, pfennig, undated issued in 1622. Crayfish with S C for Stadt Cottbus at bottom. Eklund 408, Krause 2, uniface.



- Certificate from Companhia das Minas de Carvão de Pedra Arroio dos Ratos issued in Rio de Janeiro on 26 April 1884. Cancelled with a large X across the face. No. 4357 in amount of 200,000 reis.
 - Certificate Compañia San Vicente de Bolivia issued in Huachaca on May 16, 1887. No. 28 in amount of 1000 Bolivianos. Most Bolivian certificates were issued at La Paz or Sucre, but this was issued at a small copper mining city. These last two are additions to Don's South American scripophily collection.
 - Seven badges promoting numismatics, issued by Banco Central de La Republica Argentina.
-

Birthday and Year Joined

May 2	Donn Pearlmann	1979
May 3	Roy R. Grundy	1981
May 5	Dennis Fuller	1997
May 8	Sharon Blocker	2000
May 10	Marty Vink	1952
May 11	William A. Burd	1993
May 11	Jeffrey Rosinia	1995
May 15	Jay M. Galst	1991
May 17	Shirley Valenziano	1984
May 17	Paul R. Hybert	1994
May 23	Robert J. Weinstein	1991
May 25	John G. Ross	

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wiclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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May, 2002

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Chicago Coin Club

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May 2002

Minutes of the 1000th Meeting

The historic 1000th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on April 6, 2002 at 1:05PM by President Carl Wolf. The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont Illinois, in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair. There were 80 attendees who signed the attendance ledger, including members and guests.

President Wolf advised those attendees who were not members but wished to be, that the club requires the applicant to be present for one of two required readings of the application for membership. Meetings at events such as the CICF offer numismatists from out of town who normally may not have an opportunity to attend a CCC meeting to apply for membership. He also urged all to remain for the entire presentation and noted that the traditional Club hand out on primitive money will be distributed free to all in attendance at the end of this session.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced the featured speaker Steve Album, of Santa Rosa California and his presentation *The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650-1250 A.D.*

The presentation began with the reign of the last Assyrian ruler and the first Islamic coinage in 698 AD. Coins were made of copper, silver and gold and generally carry an inscription that translates "In the name of God this Driham (or Dirhem) was struck in (city) in (date)". Steve outlined the extent of the uniform coinage that extended to Morocco, Spain, Yemen and Uzbekistan. During the 10th and 11th centuries Islamic coinage experienced the same silver depletion that was prevalent throughout Europe.

Establishing dates of Islamic coinage in the Gregorian calendar is slightly challenging. Dates on Islamic coinage are done in the Islamic calendar. This begins with the flight of Muhammad from Mecca to Medina in 622 AD. Additionally the Islamic calendar is based on the lunar cycle and therefore 11 days shorter than a solar calendar.

There is a movement within the Islamic community to re-establish Islamic currency to be used by Islamic people of different nations. We can only speculate as to how this would work.

First Vice President Robert Feiler thanked Steve for his enlightening presentation and presented him with the Chicago Coin Club "Featured Speaker Award". Steve received a round of applause.

Mark Wieclaw, Chairman of the 1000th Meeting Committee announced to those in attendance the availability of the 1000th meeting commemorative medals. He also advised the evening's banquet activities. Mark also passed out a limited supply of elongated cents, commemorating the 1000th meeting.

Carl Wolf introduced Robert Leonard, author of this year's primitive money souvenir handout. Bob penned the article "Gold Dust Currency". The club tradition was continued by placing copy number 1 in the club archives, copy number 2 was awarded to the featured speaker Steve Album and copy number 3 to the author Robert Leonard. Copies were then distributed to those in attendance.

There were several applications for membership made. President Carl Wolf read the names of these new applicants who were in attendance:

- ☐ Thomas J. Pupp
- ☐ Fidencio Parevez
- ☐ Jeffery Amelse
- ☐ Dale Noble
- ☐ Doug Scrimager
- ☐ David Tsujimoto
- ☐ Dennis Coughlin
- ☐ Paul Johnson

With no other business remaining President Carl Wolf called for a motion to recess the meeting until the evening banquet. The motion was made seconded and passed. The meeting was recessed.

The Evening Session and 1000th Meeting Banquet

The historic 1000th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was reconvened on the evening of April 6, 2002 by President Carl Wolf. This portion of the meeting

was also held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare Hotel, Rosemont Illinois. There were 66 attendees who signed the attendance ledger, including members and guests.

Carl Wolf gave a brief welcome to all in attendance. President Wolf noted that it was befitting that this occasion be attended by numismatists from many regions of the world. He noted the 1000th Meeting Committee was chaired by Mark Wieclaw and explained the various levels of involvement of club members and the significance of the ribbons associated with the name tags. Carl heralded the many aspects of numismatics. A collectors we often wear many hats. We are the curator, detective, teacher, cataloguer, etc. After thanking everyone for attending, he turned the program over to Mark Wieclaw, Chairman of the 1000th Meeting, who again welcomed all.

Mark asked First Vice President Robert Feiler to lead us in an invocation prior to our meal.

Mark Wieclaw introduced the club officers, President Carl Wolf, First Vice President Robert Feiler, Second Vice President Donald Dool and Secretary Treasurer Lyle Daly. He recognized board member Jeff Rosinia and then introduced the members of the 1000th Meeting Committee: William Burd, Robert Feiler, Reid Geisler, Kevin & Sharon Blocker, Mike Metras, Carl Wolf and Steve Zitowsky.

Recognized and present in the audience were past presidents Charles Ryant, Charles Ricard, Robert Leonard, Mark Weiclaw and Andrew Micheyta. Also present was Tillie Boosel, widow of past president Harry Boosel.

Recognized and present in the audience were Literary and Medal of Merit Recipients William Burd, David Simpson, Andrew Michyeta, Robert Leonard, Carl Wolf, Charles Ryant and Charles Ricard. Also present was Tillie Boosel, widow of past recipient Harry Boosel.

After the banquet meal, Robert Leonard introduced the featured speaker Dr. Ute Wartenberg and her presentation *Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the Ancient World*. Dr Wartenberg traced the factors leading to the relative consistency of the design on the Greek Tetradrachm while all other art forms within the archeological record show signs of artistic evolution.

First Vice President Robert Feiler awarded to Dr Wartenberg a personal copy of the 1000th meeting medal and a Chicago Coin Club Featured Speaker Medal.

Carl Wolf announced that there were two applications for membership to be read. Katie DiCosta and Andrius Pliplyos submitted applications for membership.

Carl Wolf and Mark Wieclaw asked both Dr Wartenberg, representing the American Numismatic Society, and ANA President John Wilson to come up to the podium. Both were asked to accept silver medals commemorating the 1000th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club for the cabinets of their organizations.

The following visiting dignitaries were recognized: Kerry Wetterstrom, Editor of the *Celator*; Kevin Foley, Chairman of the Chicago International Coin Fair; Harlan Berk, President of Professional Numismatists Guild.

Harlan Berk briefly commented on the heritage of the CCC, noting that it was the first numismatic club he was a member of. He joined in 1964 and remembered fondly the meetings at the Palmer House and the rewarding associations with members such as Harry Boosel, Arlie Slabaugh, Tom Ryan, Baker, Leonard Stark, Ben Dreiske, David Shapiro and many more.

ANA President John Wilson asked to have a moment and noted the Chicago Coin Club as a "pillar of strength in the numismatic community" and clubs such as ours, the "key to continued success of the numismatic society". President Wilson then asked Carl Wolf to approach the podium and accept on behalf of the CCC a Certificate of Appreciation from the ANA.

Bill Bright of Krause Publications accepted the podium and described to the audience the qualifications for the Numismatic Ambassador Award given each year by Krause Publications. He then announced this year's recipient, Dr Ute Wartenberg, who approached the stage to receive the award.

After wishing all in attendance a good night, President Carl Wolf, in an unprecedented deviation from Robert's Rules of order, DECLARED the 1000th meeting adjourned. There were no objections.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Speaker's Worl[d The Development of Islamic Coinage, 650-1250 AD

Presented by Steve Album to our April 6, 2002 meeting.

First V.P. Robert Feiler introduced Steve Album from Santa Rosa, CA and cited his forty-two years as a numismatist and the rewriting he did of Marsden's *Numismata Orientalia Illustrata*, a guide to Islamic and Oriental coins and their values. Mr. Album is currently a senior research fellow at Worcester College, Oxford, England, where he has been working on publishing four volumes of *Sylloge of Islamic Coins in the Ashmolean Museum*.

Album pointed out that we do not talk about Christian or Jewish coins the same way as Islamic coins. The Muslims invented about 690-700 AD the term "Islamic coin." But the first Muslims who produced coins were those that conquered Iran in about 651-2 AD (regnal year 20 of the last Sasanian ruler in Iran) and were minted in Sijistan. On that coinage they decided to add the term *bism Allah* (In the name of God) and this then marks the beginning of Islamic coinage. But they didn't convert to a true Arabic/Islamic coinage for another forty-five years.

For these coins they imitated the Sasanian type for silver, imitated Byzantine coins for copper and occasionally for gold. Then in their calendar year 77 (698 AD) they produced a single type of coinage in gold, followed by silver in 78 and copper about 80. This was the first true Islamic coinage. There were no more imitations. It was pure Arabic with religious inscriptions, sometimes the name of the mint and the date, and without illustrations. From this point, Islamic silver and gold coinage is normally dated, unlike most coins in the other parts of the world. Their first copper coin reads *la ilah illa Allah wahdahu* (there is no diety but God; he is one) and *Muhammad rasul Allah* (Muhammad is the apostle of God). That is all it says, a statement that is known as the kalima, which is still in use in that exact form on some of today's coinage!

Both the gold and silver bear the same religious inscription but since the silver is larger it has a longer version of those inscriptions. The silver always has the mintmark, which was not something new to the coinage world, as it had been *de rigueur* in Iran for more than 200 years prior to the Muslim

conquest. On these early coins the city name appeared not just an initial that we see in the West and on most of the earlier Iranian coins. This practice was discontinued recently. Now there is talk in the Middle East to return to the original silver, gold and copper coinage designs that were struck in the early days of Islam from 698 AD.

The Islamic dynasty that ruled as the Caliphs was based in Damascus and was ousted in 132 (749-50 AD). During their rule the entire Islamic world from Central Asia to Spain to Morocco and Yemen issued identical coins except for the year or the mint. In 750 AD a new dynasty took over called the Abbasids, who ruled for over 500 years. During their reign there was a gradually growing change in coinage with many types issued. By year 200 (815 AD) different mints were producing different coins. The early Abbasids maintained careful weights for the silver and gold and as their Caliphs became less and less powerful, new independent kingdoms emerged and issued their own coinage. The best known of these was Harun al-Rashid (170-193, AD 786-809), the Caliph associated with *Tales of One Thousand and One Arabian Nights*.

The Abbasids didn't put their own name on the coins. We don't know why but the Caliph at first put the name of his "heir apparent" on the coinage.

Thereafter, a few mints began to put the local governor's name and the person in charge of the mint on the coins. On the silver coins dated from year 132 to the death of the last son of Harun in year 218 (about 85 years) approximately the names of 150 governors appear on the coinage; many more names appear on copper coins. In the year 219/834 Harun's grandson al-Mu'tasim puts his name on the coinage and forbids the governors from adding their names.

In those areas that fell out of the control of the Abbasids, the coinage became very complex. This was especially true around year 400 (1000 AD), by which time more than thirty different Islamic kingdoms were producing all kinds of different coins, in a wide variety of metals and weights. It became even more complex the next hundred years when the Turkish Seljuqs took over the eastern half of the Islamic world. In the central Asian Turkish kingdom under the Qarakhanid dynasty, their main city was Samarkand (Samarqand in present day Uzbekistan). They issued a coinage with over 1000 different names appearing over 200 years! Historians have no idea who these people were and sometimes as many as five names appear from the same mint in the same year.

Album felt much of this was a result of a worldwide lack of quality silver during the 10th and 11th centuries. No one knows exactly why, but England was the only country in this time to maintain a fine silver coinage of accurate fixed weight.

Muslims were great recorders of history beginning within fifty years of Muhammad's death in late 7th century AD. Books within 150 years of his death survive to this day. Then for the next 150 years they write tremendous volumes and hundreds have survived. The most famous was composed about year 310-315 (925 AD) by al-Tabari that has been translated over the last twenty years into English in 39 volumes by the State University of New York. Modern publications of most of the books on the early Islamic years are available in university libraries.

Year 1 in the Islamic year begins when Muhammad fled from Mecca to Medina. He died in year 11 that was 622 AD. Arabic dating is based on a lunar year, not a solar year. Their current year is 1423. This conversion process is one of the more complicated aspects of collecting Islamic coins; whereas the Christian year is 365 or 366 days long, the Muslim year is a lunar year of about 354 days.

When asked if there are any coins before Muhammad written in Arabic script, Album cited the coins of the dependent kingdom of the Nepoteens. They used an Aramaic script that was a similar and related language.

Carl Wolf

Our 1001st Meeting

Date: May 8, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Bruno Rzepka - *The Art of Steel Engraving*

Speaker's Worl[d **Owls to Athens - The Dollar of the Ancient World**

Presented by Dr. Ute Wartenberg to our April 6, 2002 meeting.

Club member and American Numismatic Society (ANS) Fellow, Robert D. Leonard, Jr., introduced Dr. Ute Wartenberg, Executive Director of the ANS. Among her many accomplishments Leonard cited a Rhodes scholarship, a Ph.D. in classical literature and Assistant Keeper and Curator of Greek coins at the British Museum.

Dr. Wartenberg congratulated the Chicago Coin Club (CCC) on its 1000th meeting and conveyed the best wishes from the ANS staff and officers.

In her opening remarks, Wartenberg remarked how fitting it was to speak on the most popular coin in antiquity and the symbol of the 1000th meeting medal of the CCC. She remarked that whenever she introduces herself as an ancient numismatist, oftentimes people respond that they have a coin with an owl on it. Of course, they're referring to this Athenian coin and she went on to say that her talk would focus on how this coin became so incredibly popular and famous.

Athens, which was by the end of the fifth century BC to become one of the most important cities in the Mediterranean, and several other Greek cities were involved in a war with the world's most powerful empire, Persia, under King Darius I. He dominated his empire from his home in modern-day Iraq. The Greeks were well aware that he maintained a lavish court that was financed through an elaborate system of duties, taxes and tributes. When Alexander the Great conquered the Persia Empire almost 150 years later, their staggering wealth became known and was reported to be 400,000 talents or 600 million tetradrachms!

The Persians advanced on the Greeks in the summer of 490 BC and were confronted at Marathon. Even though they faced a superior force, the Athenian Greeks won a crucial victory. Ten years later, in 480 BC the Persians made another attempt to conquer mainland Greece and managed even to ransack Athens before the Greek forces defeated the invaders at Plataia in 479 BC.

With the departure of the invading army, the Greeks set up a treasury to fund future defensive actions. All the cities paid tribute into the fund that was based on the island of Delos. Soon the league turned into an empire dominated by Athens and every city was assessed according to their wealth. If Greek historians of that period are to be believed, then the annual amount raised to be 600 talents of silver. Many Greek cities were issuing their own coinage and no doubt used it to pay their tribute. Eventually, most of these coins would be melted and reissued as Athenian owl coinage.

The Persians and their predecessors, the Lydians, produced silver coinage, but it never circulated much beyond their empires in Asia Minor. The Greek city of Aigina issued their famous silver turtle coins and it was this coinage that is acknowledged as the first trading currency of the ancient world. But it was the Athenian owl coinage that truly became the first currency of the entire Mediterranean region.

The familiar and famous Athenian design started about 525 BC and on the obverse shows the head of goddess Athena, who stood for wisdom and warfare. On the reverse is her bird, the owl with a sprig of olives and an inscription. By the early part of the fifth century BC in the middle of the Persian onslaught, the Athenian owls were produced in extremely large quantities to pay for the war. By 479 BC, when the Persians left, the conservative design was already established and remained in exactly this state with only minor changes for over 100 years. What's interesting is the archaic style of the head of Athena with its famous archaic smile and an eye in-profile and the owl that remains in a primitive fashion. The artist style was very out-of-date considering what could have been achieved as seen on the Elgin marbles from the Parthenon in the British Museum.

But there were considerable advantages of an unchanging conservative design. These Athenian coins circulated well outside the Greek world. Because the design remained the same, the people who were unfamiliar with Greek images recognized and trusted these coins. They knew from experience that these coins were made of pure silver and would be accepted by others. The tetradrachm became the denomination for overseas trade. In 450 BC Athens produced a decadrahm that was large, very heavy and difficult to strike well. This probably contributed to its failure to be widely accepted.

In the late fifth century BC, Athens lost the war against Sparta and her allies and the production of tetradrachms declined. But the demand of the Athenian currency had grown much stronger, especially in the Near East. Some cities

and kingdoms as far away as Arabia began to produce their own Athenian tetradrachms that were extremely close to the originals. In little more than fifty years this Athenian coinage had become a very successful trade coinage and it circulated all over the Mediterranean and into the Middle East.

At home Athenians increasingly used coins for everyday use. This is made more difficult to assess as so few coins have survived archeologically. We don't know what prices were, but we know that the average Athenians were paid for various services, like boat rowers and citizens who served as jurors. We're lucky to have an excavation point from an ancient Athenian marketplace where over 20,000 coins were found. The overwhelming majority was made of bronze. But for large transactions, the coins of the enemy were used. This would be the gold darics from Persia.

Athens had an amazing resource in its harbor in the City of Piraeus that brought many coins into the city with traders and seaman from all over the Mediterranean. Athens was an important producer of olive oil and other products and most importantly, they had people who knew how to produce their silver coinage. They also had the important silver mines of Laurium that gave them easy access to silver bullion.

Dr. Wartenberg concluded her talk by relating that is always an incredible joy to hold an Athenian owl coin and hoped she shared her excitement about this coinage. She stated that this is why she tells everyone that if they own any ancient coin, then this is definitely the one to have.

Carl F. Wolf

Birthday and Year Joined

June 7	Harlan J. Berk	1995
June 11	Joseph A. Piekarczyk	1991
June 12	Rosalind Ryant	1977
June 27	James Simek	1973

1000th Meeting Banquet Welcome Address

(Carl Wolf, club president)

It's my great honor to call to order the second session of the Chicago Coin Club's 1000th meeting.

It's only fitting that this milestone event be celebrated in such a setting and attended by numismatists from around the world. On behalf of the Chicago Coin Club I would like to welcome everyone to this banquet.

The committee, headed by Mark Weiclaw, has been planning this event for a year and they're to be complimented for giving of their time and the work they put into planning this occasion. If you see anyone sitting at your table with a red ribbon bar beneath their name badge, then sometime during dinner, be sure to thank them for all the work they've done.

If you see anyone with a green bar beneath their name badge, then thank them for their generosity. They're the people who made financial donations, bought congratulatory advertising in the Souvenir Bulletin or they performed a valuable service for this event.

Several years ago *Crains Chicago Business* published a little-known statistic. It was that Chicago is called home to more Nobel Prize recipients than any other city in the world! And so I put before you the hypothesis that it is no coincidence that the Chicago Coin Club would have as it's Latin motto *Docendo Discimus* that translates to "We Learn By Teaching." For 83 years the Club has performed an invaluable service to numismatists with consistently scheduled monthly educational programs and exhibits. Many have discovered entire numismatic fields previously unknown to them. More importantly, many were inspired to use their newly gained knowledge as a springboard and started new collecting areas and study.

Numismatics is perhaps the greatest hobby in the world! Some days we're required to be part student, part scholar, part cataloger, part preservationist, part detective, part scientist, part teacher, part museum conservator, and part editor. With all these roles to play, learning for us has become a continuous process and way of life. And no matter how many years we spend in numismatics, there are always, always, always new things to learn.

Your presence here this evening validates our accomplishments and goals.

Your fraternal partnership is appreciated and on behalf of the Chicago Coin Club, I extend a sincere thank you.

Final Thoughts on the 1000th Meeting

Here are some of the thoughts and memories of our club, from letters recently received.

Best wishes for your 1000th meeting and banquet celebration ... It's a great club.

Kermit Wasmer

Happy Everything!

Phyllis Johnson

Priscilla and I look forward to a wonderful banquet with everyone.

Roy Grundy

Those are SPECTACULAR medals! What an accomplishment!

KL Robertson Daly

This is an event that we will remember for years to come. Not many clubs have the history behind them like the Chicago Coin Club.

Unknown Numismatist

With great regret, I write to let you know that I will be unable to attend the 1000th meeting banquet on April 6, 2002. Although I have not been able to attend regular meetings of the CCC for many years, I have maintained my membership in the club because of its importance to me in junior high and high school.

When I was 11 years old, I joined the American Numismatic Association. My name and address were published in *The Numismatist*, and within a few weeks, I received a letter from Carl Wolf, then secretary of the CCC, inviting me to attend a meeting. My father, Roy, agreed to drive me from Naperville to the Loop. When I applied for membership, the club graciously voted to

lower the minimum membership age so that I could be accepted. I believe I was the club's very first junior member.

Over the next seven years, my father and I regularly attended meetings, looking forward to hearing Harry Flower talk about Einstein, Harry X Boosel talk about 1873, and Chet Poderski try to sell coins from his display table at the meeting. I learned to stand up in front of the club and give a show-and-tell, a skill which later proved useful when I stood in front of a classroom to teach. I learned to put together exhibits, and I traveled with Carl Wolf and other club members to local and regional coin shows.

One of my dad's and my favorite stories about the CCC took place during the planning of the 750th meeting. As usual, the old and new business portions of the meeting were filled with much debate, some important and some less important. A heated discussion of the menu for the banquet arose, and in this context someone began to discuss the possibilities of where the 1000th meeting might be held, and what menu options might be available there. At this point, a frustrated listener interjected: "Listen, you old guys," he said, "we don't need to be discussing any of this." He pointed at me. "Bill here is the only one of us who is still going to be around at the 1000th meeting!"

It was a funny moment, and I am happy to see that the prediction did not come true. I enjoy reading the *Chatter* each month, and learning about what my friends in Chicago are up to at the monthly meeting of the CCC. I wish the club enduring success, and I hope that I will be able to attend the 1250th meeting.

Sincerely,
William Stafford Noble
(formerly William Noble Grundy)

Important Dates

- May 8** CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Bruno Rzepka on *The Art of Steel Engravings*
- June 12** CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Mark Wieclaw on *An Almost Complete Perspective on Numismatics*
- June 28-30** 21st Annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the
Secretary and mailed to:

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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Chatter



June, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 6

June 2002

Minutes of the 1001th Meeting

The 1001st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order on May 8, 2002 at 7:02PM by President Carl Wolf. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the March and April meeting minutes as they appeared in the *Chatter*.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly gave a treasury report as follows:

Dreyfus Money Market	\$1845.22
Bank One CD	1408.09
Bank One CD	1437.59
TCF Checking Account	1529.00
Un-deposited Funds	338.00
TOTAL	\$6,558.06

Vice President Bob Feiler introduced our featured speaker Bruno Rzepka, and his topic *The Art of Steel Engravings*.

Bruno Rzepka started collecting at age 13 when his father gave him a purse full of coins ranging from Indian cents to silver dollars. As a child, he was given gold coins by his godparents for communion, graduation, and various holidays. Groans were heard from the membership when we were advised that his mother dutifully turned in the gold when Franklin Roosevelt took the U.S off the gold standard.

During WWII, Bruno was in the U.S. Navy in Vega Venturas in the Aleutians. Later as Crew Chief and Captain, he flew a B-24 Liberator and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and 5 air medals. Bruno, like

many of his fellow veterans of WWII collected paper money while overseas in a "short snorter". His included the signatures of Jack Benny and Carol Landis.

After the war, he served an apprenticeship as tool and die maker. He eventually became a tool inspector. He worked for Signode Corporation in Glenview for 22 years and took early retirement at age 60. Also after the war, Bruno resumed collecting. He began to complete sets of coins. He met Glenn Smedley around 1962. Glenn became his mentor. About this time he bought his first printing error and met Jim Grebinger. He collaborated with Jim on the error section of Donlon's book on small size currency. 75% of the notes shown in that book belonged in Bruno's collection. In all, Bruno accumulated over 1400 error notes, among them a double denomination (\$5.00 front mated with \$10.00 back). Bruno met Tom Hipschen, portrait engraver at the Bureau of Engraving, in 1992 at the Stamp Expo in Rosemont. Tom was good enough to provide a listing of engravings that he was involved with. Bruno bought 75 first day covers. Tom was good enough to autograph them all.

Bruno is the past President of the Tree Towns Coin Club (Elmhurst), the Oak Park Coin Club, and charter member of the Morton Grove Coin Club. He is also a member of the Chicago Coin Club, Itasca Coin Club, and Hillside Coin Club. He is a 40 year member of the ANA, and belongs to the Souvenir Card Collector Society, and the Society of Paper Money Collectors. Before Bruno could begin his talk, the membership asked him to display his service medals. In appreciation for his contribution to our nation, he received a round of applause. Bruno began his talk by explaining how a steel engraving was carved out of a piece of annealed steel which is relatively soft. Each line must be individually carved with a burin, or engraving tool. After the "curls" of steel are removed, the sharp surfaces of the steel plate are removed with a wet stone. At intervals of completion, the artist will take a series of proofs to test the plate and map his progress. If an error is made before the plate is one third complete, the plate is typically destroyed. If the plate is more than a third complete, the artisan will drill out a portion of the back of the plate and "bump out" the site of the mistake and re-engrave the plate with the additional metal that was forced to the surface.

Bruno noted that the recent engravings will not have serial numbers while the older ones do. Earlier engravings tended to be small. There are three types or areas of specialization for engravers: plate, number and scroll work designs.

Bruno had the good fortune to correspond with Tom Hipschen, Chief Engraver at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Mr. Hipschen engraved

numerous presidential portraits.

Bruno presented engravings from his collection which included Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and Abraham Lincoln. He had portrait engravings of numerous Civil War Generals and one of Cadet Stonewall Jackson. Bruno concluded his talk with the display of an 1875 engraving of the Declaration of Independence. This was the same vignette used on the back of the series 1976 \$2 dollar.

Vice President Bob Feiler thanked Bruno for his presentation and awarded the featured speakers medal and the educational certificate to him. Bruno was originally scheduled to speak on September 12, 2001. The speaker's medal carried both dates.

Two guests were present: Andrius Plioplys and Steve Norton.

Second Vice President Don Dool announced there were 12 show & tell presenters:

- ☐ Bob Feiler - Macon GA \$5 note and a set of gold plated California gold tokens (Replica 1965)
- ☐ Reid Geisler - a 1974 quarter on a nickel planchet and an Ohio Quarter on a nickel planchet
- ☐ Mike Metras - 1932 Ethiopian bank note, Indor sun coin, and a lighter replicating a 5 franc coin
- ☐ Sharon Blocker - Jamaican bimetallic coin, Commemorative Mexican peso and Mexican medal commemorating the Aztec calendar
- ☐ Carl Wolf - merchant's bead cards and an informative history of trade beads in the US
- ☐ Robert Leonard - examples of the three types of coins used in the New World as evidenced by archeological excavations in the Dominican Republic
- ☐ Bob Weinstein - Engraved prescription forms for alcohol from Prohibition, NY Prohibition Medal dated 7/4/1854, silver Washington Medal, Grover Cleveland medal from the Columbian Expo.
- ☐ Richard Hamilton - Mortgage Bond from Sleeping Parlor Coach Co and a stock certificate from Pennsylvania Railroad with restrictions on ownership by Japan or Germany
- ☐ Andy Plioplys - 3 Lithuanian silver bars 12th -14th century.
- ☐ Mark Weiclaw - 3 Byzantine coins and a Russian beard token
- ☐ Bruno Rezpka - Letter from Dr Davenport dated 11/16/1965
- ☐ Don Dool - 4 coins purchased at CICF from the 14th & 15th century

Reading of Applications for Membership: A first reading for membership was made for Steve Norton who was present.

The following candidates for membership had their names read for a second time: Thomas J. Pupp, Fidencio Parevez, Jeffery Amelse, Dale Noble, Doug Scrimager, David Tsujimoto, Dennis Coughlin, Paul Johnson, Katie DiCosta and Andrius Plioplys. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve their membership.

Old Business:

President Carl Wolf advised the club that Steve Album extended his apologies for the absence of his slides at the afternoon presentation of the 1000th meeting. Family illness prevented him from preparing that portion of his talk. Mark Wieclaw commented and the members agreed that that no apology was necessary. His talk was appreciated.

Mark Wieclaw presented to the club archives, the silver 1000th meeting medal #1, the "gold select" medal #100 and the lead trial strike. A round of applause was given to Mark and all the committee members for their outstanding effort.

Bill Burd announced that the CCC has received a commemorative medal and program from the New York Numismatic Club from their 1000th meeting. The CCC thanks the NYNC. These materials will be forwarded to the archives.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to print an additional 100 program booklets for new members.

Carl Wolf announced that the "Gold Dust Currency" was nominated for a creative award by the mill that made the paper.

Mark Wieclaw announced that a drawing for a gold elongated coin was overlooked at the 1000th meeting. A drawing was made from the sign in registry and Dave Simpson won. CONGRADULATIONS DAVE!

Mark Wieclaw presented lead strikes of the Medal commemorating the 1000th meeting to Bill Burd and Sharon and Kevin Blocker as the committee chairman's gift to the committee members. (Bill, Sharon & Kevin were not able to attend the wrap up meeting.)

President Carl Wolf announced that Lyle Daly and Steve Zitowsky will develop a summary financial report on the 1000th meeting.

New Business:

Carl Wolf announced that he would call a Board of Directors meeting in the near future to discuss the contents of the Archives, Safe Deposit Box and new banquet sites.

Robert Leonard reported on possible topics for the 2003 CICF giveaway which included "Baghdad Bread" money and "Salt & Pepper" money.

Lyle Daly reported that all paid members will be receiving their 2002 membership card with their Chatter. A reminder letter to those who have not paid will be sent in June.

Deed of Gift documents were received by the ANA for the 1000th meeting medal and will be completed and returned.

Life membership fee was received by the club for Michael Brodsky. The application was referred to the life membership committee.

John Connolly noted that the State auction of the contents of the abandoned safe deposit boxes brought prices well over gray sheet and suggested attendance would not be beneficial.

President Carl Wolf noted that John Connolly was the only member who remembered a camera for our 1000th meeting and offered a round of applause for John.

Finally Mark Wieclaw noted to membership the unwavering determination and support that President Carl Wolf gave to the 1000th meeting planning and implementation effort. Mr. Wolf was totally involved in all aspects of the event. Carl received a well deserved round of applause.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Speaker's Wor[l]d The Art of Steel Engravings

Presented by Bruno Rzepka to our May 8, 2002 meeting.

To better share his appreciation of steel engraving with us, Bruno brought a large box of items. Jeff Rosinia was kept busy operating the camera, allowing us to see the items on the large screen television.

Among the highlights of his long involvement in paper money were his collaborating with Jim Grebinger on the error section of Donlon's book on small size currency (where 75% of the pictured notes were from Bruno's collection), and when Aubrey Bebee signed his pictured error note in Donlon's book.

Having been encouraged to bring them, Bruno then was prompted from the audience to show his WW II Navy medals: an Air Medal with 4 stars, and the Distinguished Flying Cross. Getting back to the main topic, he showed the first steel engraving of the evening, one he had acquired two years ago in Scotland. It was dated 1765.

Although most people think of steel as a hard metal, it can be softened by a heat treatment; Bruno likened the result as comparable to cold butter. Shallow cuttings then can be made in the steel with a graver, a tool with a small V-shaped point. After a few cuts, the plate is wiped with a whetstone to remove the burrs resulting from the cuts; the burrs are sharp enough to cut a finger. After part of the design is entered, a spider press is used to print the plate (resulting in a proof) to verify the current image. Bruno showed some prints with some details complete and with others only lightly sketched in, showing the interactive nature of creating a plate.

Even when softened, a steel plate is not conducive to the fixing of mistakes. If an error is made before much of the design is entered, the entire plate might be scrapped. For plates with much work already done, Bruno explained how an error typically is corrected. First, a hole is drilled from the rear of the plate, but not all the way through. Next, a hammer and chisel are used from the rear to push metal back up to the surface, where finally it is wiped with a whetstone to smooth it.

Why go through all this effort? Bruno showed examples produced by steel

plates and woodcuts, to convince us that the extra effort is worth it.

Having explained the main aspects of plate production, Bruno proceeded to discuss the use of plates by printers. A large bond with many vignettes might be run through a press many times, using one vignette on each pass. The frame, scrollwork, and other design elements might each be added on their own pass. This allowed for re-use of elements on later items. However, current US paper money is produced from plates which are two steps removed from the original hand-engraved components, so that multiple images of complete bills are found on the current intaglio printing plate. To help explain production of current US money, Bruno distributed copies of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's *The Money Factory* flyer.

The engravers are a good source of information, and Bruno spent some time on the biographies of Thomas R. Hipschen and Tom Spiewak, and showed Spiewak's engraved business card identifying him as a plate engraver for the BEP. The souvenir printings from various shows give us the opportunity to meet these skilled people and discuss their work.

Bruno met Tom Hipschen at the Ameripex '86 show; Tom had engraved about half of the presidents on the presidential stamp set, and Tom graciously signed **all** of the sheets that Bruno had bought. But not all government employees are as open with collectors, as when Bruno described how, years ago, he had torn up and thrown away a letter from the Treasury Department stating, "We do not make mistakes," in response to some questions from Bruno.

Eagles and Lincoln are Bruno's favorite subjects, and he showed prints of those as well as various Civil War figures. Although many engravings are known of Lincoln, Bruno knows of only one without a beard, and that is in a book. But, he continues the search.

It seemed as if every piece had an interesting story behind its acquisition. Bruno showed a large railroad bond, printed by the Franklin Banknote Company, with **everything** steel engraved, even the lettering and the coupons. He had acquired it at a flea market from a dealer with 8 of them, priced at three for \$1; but the dealer would sell him only three bonds!

At a flea market in San Jose, \$28 bought a group of prints of individual Civil War officers, such as Beauregard, Ronbeau, and others. Bruno later sold the Robert E. Lee print for \$50 to someone who already had an autographed letter of Lee.

A Virginia City, California antique shop had a framed engraving in the window, and a note, "Call this number to open the store." Bruno called, and \$22.50 bought an 1875 engraved print of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, at least 4 by 7 inches in size. Tom Hipschen estimated it would take about one and a half years to engrave the scene (the same scene appears on the back of the US \$2 bill). Bruno later was offered \$125 for just the frame and glass (bubbles in the glass indicate it to be contemporary with the print).

There was more, but you get the idea that a good time was had by all.

Our 1002nd Meeting

Date: June 12, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Mark Wieclaw - *An Almost Complete Perspective on Numismatics*

Different people bring different goals and perspectives to our hobby. Join us as a past president of our club looks at the hobby from his views as a collector, coin dealer, club officer, and a show organizer.

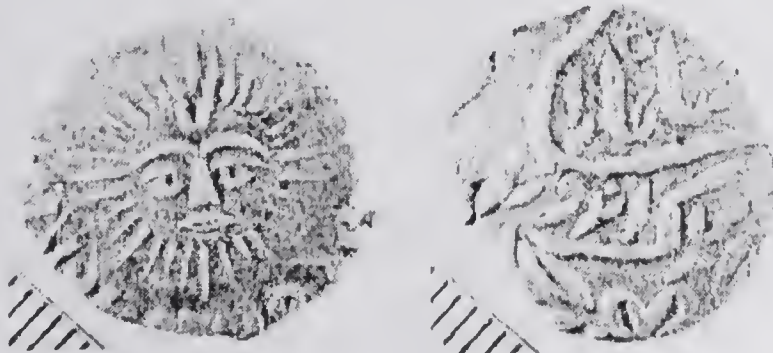
Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Bob Feiler** started us off with pieces acquired at some shows:
 - ☐ A \$5 Macon, Georgia Manufacturer's Bank note with a vignette that had caught his eye.
 - ☐ From a Milwaukee show, a 10-piece California gold type set. Gold plated, and made in the early 1960s by Peach Tree coins.
2. Recently acquired error coins were shown by **Reid Geisler**.
 - ☐ A 1974 quarter received in change, it was struck on a nickel planchet and has a partial reeded edge.
 - ☐ An Ohio quarter on a nickel planchet.
3. **Mike Metras** showed a range of items:
 - ☐ From the CICF auction, a cinquante thalers, Bank of Ethiopia paper money, of the 1932-1935 series.



- ☐ On the CICF bourse, this Sun face of Indor, India shouted out to Mike.



- ☐ At a flea market, a cigarette lighter made out of a French 5 franc coin.

4. A purchase at a Jamaica Airport gave **Sharon Blocker** a pleasant surprise, when her expected change of \$11.50 was paid as \$11, but with a \$20 bimetallic piece instead of the expected half dollar. She also showed
 - ☐ A Mexican coin honoring the 350th anniversary of coinage.
 - ☐ A 1993 medal with an Aztec calendar on the obverse and renditions of coins on the reverse.
5. **Carl Wolf** showed a White Heart trade bead from Venice, 17-19th centuries, and explained that one should not buy trade beads for much money as there is no proof of originality. Much of the current information on trade beads comes from bead collectors, but they do not care too much about their numismatic usage.

The White Heart bead also is known as the New Hudson's Bay bead, since it was used after the beads with a green center that Carl had shown at an earlier meeting.
6. Early coinage of Hispaniola was discussed by **Bob Leonard** who started with the settlement of La Isabela, founded in 1494 by Christopher Columbus and abandoned in 1497 when Santo Domingo was founded on the southern coast.
 - ☐ Excavations at La Isabela produced 76 coins which were reported in the *Numismatist* in 1992, with some pieces illustrated. Bob showed a similar billon piece of Henry IV (the prior king) that he recently acquired from Spain, and costing less than \$20.
 - ☐ A copper *quartilla* minted in Santo Domingo from 1542 to 1600.
 - ☐ A similar *quartilla*, but countermarked with a key. (~~1573-1584~~).
7. **Bob Weinstein** showed no ancient coins, but still covered a wide range:
 - ☐ A prescription form for liquor, one of the lesser known products of the Bureau of Engraving. It is an unused original, with carbon copy. The unused forms are harder to find, but there are about 20 offered per week on eBay. It appears that much liquor was used for medicinal purposes during Prohibition.
 - ☐ A July 4, 1855 medal supporting local temperance in New York. This is not common, as most temperance medals originated in England.
 - ☐ A silver George Washington mint medal, holed and with a loop.
 - ☐ A 100th anniversary of American Independence medal, holed but fixed.
 - ☐ A Columbian Exposition Grover Cleveland medal in bronze, to honor his visit.
8. Railroad related financial instruments were shown by **Richard Hamilton**.

- ☐ A 6% mortgage bearer bond of the Woodruff Sleeping Car Company.
 - ☐ Two stock certificates of the Pennsylvania Railroad, for 5 and 10 shares. The interesting point of these is the 1947 certificate on the rear; they are from Swiss banks and attest that these had not been owned by German or Japanese nationals.
9. **Andy Piopolus** showed two silver bars, cast from the 12th to the 14th centuries in Lithuania. After pointing out the chissel marks that appear on some, he noted that the Russian word for chopping is ruble, and kopeck is based on the Lithuanian word for chopping. These pieces were used for marriage prices and murder fines in lieu of the death sentence. Andy concluded by showing a counterfeit piece.
10. Ancient coins were showed by **Mark Wieclaw** who concluded with a more recent piece.
- ☐ A 120 nummi of Justinian I, 525-555, weighing 0.68 grams. Silver was scarce at that time of the Byzantine Empire.



- ☐ A Byzantine follis of Maurice Tiberius, but this is a brockage.
- ☐ A silver coin of Constantius II, but its weight of 2.8 grams makes it too heavy for a new siliqua.



- ☐ A Russian beard token from 1705, this could have cost up to 50

rubles for a noble. This copper piece has a counterstamp and gold plating.

11. **Bruno Rzepka** showed a November 16, 1965 letter from Dr. Davenport, who was responding to questions regarding three German Thalers. His reply contained some information, but he also apologized in that he knew more about the large thalers.
12. Four acquisitions from CICF were shown by **Don Dool**.
 - A 1571 denar of Brandenburg, issued under Albrecht Friedrich (1569-1618). Probably billon. Saurma 5099.



- Sicily, 1629, 1/2 sou.
 - Livonia, contemporary counterfeit copper solidus. Dated 1649 or 59? From Suchawa in Moldavia, issued in name of Christina, 1632-1654. Struck on misaligned roller dies. Punched about 100% off center. Livonia was under Swedish rule at that time.
 - A 1641 menut or dinero from Solsona, Catalona, Spain. One of about 18 locations that issued coins in the name of Louis XIII during the French occupation of 1641-1642. Note that the four (4) in date is retrograde.
-

More Final Thoughts on the 1000th Meeting

Thank you for sending a copy of the Chicago Coin Club 1000th Meeting souvenir program. The document itself is a living testament to the essential qualities required to be a distinguished and prestigious numismatic organization. The timbers upon which the club's foundation was built many years ago had set the high standards which continue to this day. I read names like Ripstra, Mehl, Boosel, Smedley, Hewitt, Sheldon, Eglit, Flower, Slabaugh; a list of "super stars" to be sure. Several of whom emboss my own collecting interests. Oh yes! I know there are many more including the many prominent members of today who are carrying on the tradition. Their contributions have not gone unnoticed.

Though not a member of the Chicago Coin Club, I have always felt its presence going back to when I first started collecting in 1964. It was back then and remains today ... the club to belong to! I have several medallic issues from the CCC and "Perspectives In Numismatics" maintains a prominent place in my library. I wouldn't sell or trade any of them.

As the founding father of the Oak Forest Numismatic Society, my aim was to create a club which would some day be as good as the Chicago Coin Club. That is quite a goal for any coin club. For you have set the standards by which all are judged. This year we are celebrating our 25th anniversary and our 300th meeting in September. You have been our model all the way.

I will make sure the souvenir program is passed around at our next meeting on May 3rd. I want the members to see and feel the pride that radiates from within its pages, the communion of members and numismatics, and the rich numismatic history of the Chicago Coin Club. It's all there between the covers.

In closing, I convey to you on behalf of the Oak Forest Numismatic Society, congratulations on your 1000th meeting; Chicago's best, the mid-west's best, America's best ... the Chicago Coin Club.

Howard W. Ribbentrop, President, OFNS

More Notes from the 1000th Meeting

Dinner Toast

As President of the American Numismatic Association, I raise my glass on behalf of the ANA's 30,000 members to congratulate the Chicago Coin Club on its 1,000th meeting.

May we honor those who came before us, and extend our best wishes to those who follow.

Good health, happiness, and numismatics.

Congratulatory Address

Thank you. Esteemed dignitaries, members and guests; as a member of the Chicago Coin Club, and President of the American Numismatic Association, I am honored to be here today.

Nearly 111 years ago in Chicago, the American Numismatic Association was born, and, with its founding, numismatics began to reach out to the hearts and minds of coin collectors everywhere.

An early member of the ANA once described the organization as a "federation of local clubs and societies."

The Chicago Coin Club has been and remains today a pillar of strength in the ANA's federation of clubs, and, as such, key to the continued success of numismatics.

In recognition of all the support and assistance performed by this organization to the benefit of the numismatic hobby, it is my pleasure and honor to present the Chicago Coin Club, with a small token of gratitude, on behalf of the members of the American Numismatic Association, and extend their heart felt congratulations in celebration of your 1,000th meeting. Thank You.

John Wilson, President, ANA

Important Dates

- June 12** CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Mark Wieclaw on *An Almost Complete Perspective on Numismatics*
- June 28-30** 21st Annual MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is \$5.
-

Birthday and Year Joined

July 4	Chester Poderski	
July 12	Flemming Lyngbeck Hansen	2000
July 13	Gerard Anaszewicz	1981
July 19	Terry L. Capps	1996
July 19	John R. Connolly	1997
July 19	Richard S. Hamilton	1986
July 20	Kermit W. Wasmer	1997
July 27	David Simpson	1980

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the
Secretary and mailed to:

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CHICAGO, IL 60690

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<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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Chatter



July, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 7

July 2002

Speaker's Worl[d An Almost Complete Perspective on Numismatics

Presented by Mark Wieclaw to our June 12, 2002 meeting.

Unlike most of us, Mark Wieclaw started collecting coins as an adult, inspired by his father-in-law. However, he did go through the typical stages. As a novice, he collected proof and mint sets; an 1899 Indian Head Cent was his first pre-1900 coin, impressing him with how old it was. Now he has many coins from before 300 BC.

Part of being a novice was spending two hours reading *Coin World* on a Friday night, but now three magazines can be read in 15 minutes. Now, much pleasure is derived from showing new purchases, not from just putting them into a collection.

His highlight as a collector was attending an ANA summer seminar, won for a best-in-show exhibit at the Fall 1988 Michigan convention. He extolled the experience, and recommended attendance if at all possible.

So much more information is available now, both in books and the internet among others. That is one of the improvements he has seen, but the declining exhibit quality at shows was also mentioned. All of us should make an effort to share our knowledge with others, and show exhibits provide a good avenue for that.

Mark then related some of his judging experiences while exhibiting. The worst one was have the same exhibit graded at 95 points at a local show, but then graded at 35 points at an ANA convention; and that was from the same judge! Maybe that is why he prefers the Show and Tell venue to just static

exhibiting.

Different people have different reasons for becoming a club officer, but some themes recur. One type does not like current things and believe they could do better. Another type sees things as okay, but has ideas on how to make things better. And then there is the type with just ego. You can tell if you are doing a good job by members' comments, but sometimes it is the subtle things, such as members' faces, that are truest. With only an annual convention for the Illinois state society, members are seen only once per year, and many times upset people either remain quiet or give up. In that regard, it is harder being an officer of a larger club than it is with a local club.

Another task that requires people skills is being a show organizer. For the Will County club, things ran smoothly when using the same venue every year. But changes to the old room triggered a search for a new venue, and that caused a schedule change; but many dealers went to a monthly show, instead. Publicity is very important! The move of the Illinois state convention from its traditional site of Peoria to Chicago resulted in a smaller attendance. After deciding to move the show to Chicago, it was found that all available ballrooms were half the size at twice the cost; so advance planning is very important, too. But so is hard work, for that is why the show is getting better at its recent site in Countryside, a Chicago suburb.

But even the ANA shows need people skills to run well, as Mark told of being in charge of the hospitality suite and being faced with the hotel's charge of \$23 per gallon for water for coffee, lemonade, or anything. After the first day, a \$20 tip to the hotel staff produced unlimited water for everything.

Mark has worked at two different types of coin shops, and has found good and bad customers at both. The story of a non-collector's phone call, saying he had a Buffalo nickel in mint condition (but when asked for the date, replied that it was worn out), produced some knowing groans from the audience. But then Mark discussed behavior of collectors in shops, even describing some of his own behavior with dealers. Collectors and dealers need each other, and common sense and a few small gestures go a long way. Such as not monopolizing a dealer's time, buying something from a dealer who has given you assistance, and realizing that dealers have much work to do even when no one is in the shop.

The general feeling is that dealers of world and ancient coins are more willing to sit and talk with customers, than are dealers of just U.S. coins. Being a dealer has given Mark the opportunity to see and handle material he would

not see normally. Asked how he stays a collector while being a dealer, he replied that he collects mostly ancient coins but works at a bullion oriented shop; they are two different areas. He followed up with the observation that is amazing how many dealers do not like coins.

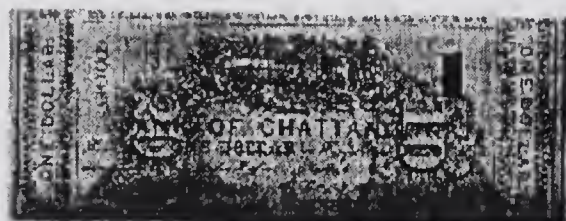
Although he has not conducted an auction, he has attended them as a collector. You should not always go by what you see, owing to the unique nature of auctions.

As to points such as when to haggle, explaining the buy and sell spread on bullion items in a changing market, and how to answer the question, "Should I buy this; will gold go up?" let's just say that some questions can have many right answers while others have none.

Show and Tell

1. **Bob Weinstein** started the program with coins dating from the 30 BC to 10 AD era, from southern central Asia.
 - ☐ A coin of Kharahostes, who ruled a small kingdom after the breakup of a large empire by a predecessor. Poor Greek legends on the obverse, and local markings on the reverse.
 - ☐ A coin issued by a son of Kharahostes, but we are unsure of his name due its not being found on the coin. It has a city goddess motif, hearkening back to earlier issues.
 - ☐ A similar piece, but with a rosette.
 - ☐ A coin from a neighboring area, also with a rosette, but possibly from a different ruler of the same family. It shows the usual figure on horseback.
2. **Bob Feiler** collects paper money with interesting vignettes and odd denominations, and showed:

- ☐ A uniface \$1 note from the Bank of Chattanooga, with parts of \$10 and \$20 notes on the reverse showing that the paper had been re-used.



- ☐ A \$2 note from the Citizen's Bank of Gosport, Indiana. It is unusual in that it is not uniface; its only problem is that the bank was fraudulent.
 - ☐ A three thousand dollar trust certificate of Morris Canal & Banking.
 - ☐ James McCormick's book *The Microscopic Images of J.B. Dancer*. Dr. McCormick will speak on that topic at our September meeting.
3. **Lyle Daly** showed a 90th anniversary medal issued by the Rochester Numismatic Association. This one-ounce silver medal now is sold out.
 4. **Carl Wolf** showed Recycled Bottle-Green Glass trade beads of Africa. These green beads were made in Africa from recycled glass and are used as a medium of exchange. Nowhere in the world are beads as popular as they are in Africa. Archaeologists have excavated glass beads along the eastern and southern coasts of Africa that were

produced in India as early as 200 BC. Glass beads are now produced in numerous locations throughout Africa and many are exquisitely decorated.

Manufacturing beads from recycled glass is a process that occurs only in Africa and began right at the start. Glass making technology came to sub-Saharan Africa around 600 AD and is thought to have occurred in Mapungubwe, South Africa. Some scholars believe these early beads were not made from resident ingredients, but from pulverized bottles or glass ingots imported from elsewhere. When most glass is made it's a translucent green. Cheap bottles are this color, and it's called "bottle-green." Today green beads are still being made from glass scrap in the West African countries of Mauritania, Ghana and Nigeria. Discarded European bottles, medicine jars or imported beads are popular raw materials. They have a low monetary value but they still hold a place in the African economy.

5. **Mike Metras** showed the culmination of 30 year's work, a CD of material from the late 1960s titled *Ethiopia: Travels of a Youth - Highways & Byways of Ethiopia*. Mike has exhibited many numismatic items from Ethiopia at past club meetings.
6. **Mark Wieclaw** showed mostly double-struck ancient coins, but first:
 - ☐ A popped out buffalo nickel, or was it just a piece of art?
 - ☐ A one ounce US gold piece, with a planchet flaw on the reverse near AT of STATES.
 - ☐ A folles from the 4th century, of Constantine the Great.
 - ☐ A coin of emperor Gallienus, from 268-270 AD. Note the antelope on the reverse.
 - ☐ At first glance, this appears to be a coin of Diocletian; but was actually issued by Claudius Gothicus to honor Diocletian - note the funeral altar on the reverse.
7. **Sharon Blocker** showed a range of items:
 - ☐ A one rand silver coin from South Africa, dated 2001. One of only 3000 issued.
 - ☐ A "one billion" note.
 - ☐ While on a visit to Curacao, she visited a museum with ten cases of notes from other Caribbean countries, a case of their gold coins, and a case of dies and mint sets. In addition to showing photographs of those items, she showed a humorous photo taken in a food store; there, amid a shelf of Heinz Ketchup bottles, was a ketchup bottle labeled "Sunscreen for French Fries."
8. Before **Don Dool** showed his usual South American scripophily and copper coinage items, he showed a card issued for the Ben Franklin

store in McHenry, Illinois; it contains a grain of 24 karat gold.

- His latest scripophily addition was an August 1, 1883 sight draft (#3) from Panama. Issued by Furth & Campbell in the amount of 25 pounds 4/3 shillings, payable to Rosing Bros. & Co., London ninety days after sight. Sight drafts were commonly used when communications were primitive and unreliable; multiple copies (individually numbered) were sent via different routes, with the first one presented being honored.
 - Metz, City, 1555, Liard. German city taken by the French in 1552, the city continued to strike its own coins until the seizure was legalized by the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648.
 - A photo of an eBay auction item; a metal scrap from Suchawa, struck multiple times by a roller die, resulting in two complete coins and part of a third.
 - Augsburg, Bistum 1622, kreuzer struck on misaligned roller dies; beaded rim of next coin just shows on obverse.
-

Our 1003rd Meeting

Date: July 10, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Andrius V. Plioplys, M.D. - *Lithuanian Banknote Proofs from the 1920s*

In anticipation of an impending war, a briefcase containing proof material was secreted behind a masonry wall. Join us for the intriguing story of their discovery in the 1990s, and how the items made their way to Chicago.

Howard B. Eisenberg

1946 - 2002

Howard B. Eisenberg died June 4th in Milwaukee's St. Luke's Hospital. His death was the result of complications from a heart attack suffered on May 23rd. He was 55 years of age and is survived by his wife of 33-years, Phyllis; a daughter, Leah; two sons, Nathan and Adam; his parents, Dr. Herman and Margie Eisenberg; brother, Gerald and his wife Irene; sister, Miriam; father-in-law Harold Borenstein; and many nieces and nephews.

Eisenberg, member 767, joined the Chicago Coin Club (CCC) in February 1962. He collected modern world coins, wooden nickels, medals and memorabilia of the CCC and its predecessors. He was the official club representative at the 1964 American Numismatic Association (ANA) convention in Cleveland, Ohio; was in charge of putting together the official program at the 1966 ANA Diamond Jubilee Convention in Chicago; and was the 1968 banquet chairman. Eisenberg traveled to Europe and the U.S.S.R. in 1967. Club members remember the story of how he walked into the main mint in Moscow, thinking he could go on a tour but was almost arrested.

Attending CCC meetings was so important, Eisenberg endured a three-hour one-way commute from Madison, Wisconsin while he was attending University of Wisconsin Law School. In a telephone conversation several months ago, he spoke of the soft spot in his heart for the CCC even though he hadn't attended a meeting in years. He cited Glenn Smedley, Lee Hewitt, Phil Moore and others as mentors he respected deeply and credited them to his development as a human being.

He was a life member of the Illinois Numismatic Association and was elected to their Board of Governors in 1967. Eisenberg was Life Member 1060 in the ANA and contributed to the 1966 edition of the *Wooden Money Guidebook*.

Eisenberg received Junior Best of Show for his exhibit at the 1963 Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS) convention in Chicago; was the Public Relations Chairman for the 1965 CSNS Chicago event; was appointed Public Relations Director of CSNS in 1966; served as the General Chairman of the 1969 CSNS Chicago convention and the editor in 1969 of *The Centinel*, the official CSNS publication.

Eisenberg was born December 9, 1946 and graduated from Austin High

School on Chicago's West Side. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University and earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1971. While he was still a second year law student, Eisenberg was on a team of three students from the U. of W. Law School to win the National Moot Court Tournament in New York City. He clerked for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Horace Wilkie from 1972 until 1978, when he became chief State Public Defender in Wisconsin and wrote the current State Public Defender Statute.

In 1978 Eisenberg moved to Washington D.C. when he was named executive director of the National Aid and Defender Association. From 1983 through 1991 he served as a professor and director of clinical education at Southern Illinois University School of Law, Carbondale, Illinois. Eisenberg joined the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1991 and served as dean and professor of law. Then in July 1995 Eisenberg became dean of Marquette University's Law School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he taught criminal law, criminal procedure, professional responsibility and appellate advocacy. He was only the second person to serve as dean of Marquette's Law School who was not a graduate of this Jesuit institution. Eisenberg was also the first non-Catholic in this capacity and was the first Jewish dean of any of their colleges.

In addition to his administrative and teaching duties, Eisenberg represented many clients pro bono and put in 15-hour workdays. The legal newspaper *Wisconsin Opinions* quoted him saying "I'm the best lawyer that money can't buy, and I want it like that. Money taints what you do sometimes. I'm in a rare position where I'm getting paid a full-time salary, and I can help people, and I don't really need to be concerned if people can pay me."

At Marquette, Eisenberg took law students into jails and prisons, partly in an attempt to humanize felons, which he said was part of the obligation of a Jesuit institution. "It is easy to forget that the ultimate moral and professional obligation of the legal profession is to do what's right, not to earn a lot of money or even win cases," Eisenberg was quoted in the summer 2000 issue of *Marquette Magazine*.

Marquette University and the legal profession in Wisconsin are in mourning. Here are few of the many accolades published upon notice of this death:

"Howard will be forever remembered on campus as a mentor to law students, a prophetic voice for justice, a generous colleague and a tremendous leader of our Law School. He was also a very

good friend to many of us, and his counsel, his humor and his human touch will be dearly missed. Quite simply, he was both a superb legal professional and a splendid human being ... Howard did not leave to others the responsibility to have a positive impact on our community. He was available always to help others, especially the poor and underserved who benefited from his extensive pro bono work. I can think of no better role model for students at a Jesuit university. Howard had a habit of responding quickly and affirmatively whenever his expertise was sought - as it was so often by state and local agencies and leaders."

Father Robert Wild, President Marquette University

"Howard will be remembered for many wonderful things. He has changed all of us because of the integrity and commitment with which he led his professional and private life. We will miss his practical jokes and humor, his love of family and friends, his devotion to a loving God, and his ability to accomplish so much in so little time. We will miss his leadership, his mentoring, and his commitment to justice. Most importantly, we will simply just miss Howard, our friend."

Shirley Ann Wiegand, Acting Associate Dean
of Marquette University Law School

Eisenberg was "an important and powerful voice in American legal circles and in the Milwaukee community. Everyone who knew Howard couldn't help but be impressed by his integrity, intelligence and dignity."

Wisconsin Governor Scott McCallum

"I mourn Dean Eisenberg's passing with the heart of a friend and the soul of a fellow teacher and lawyer. He lived life, as do all great men and women, as if he would never have to die. He died far too young, but he will live on through his family, his students, and the many people whose lives he touched."

Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson,
Wisconsin Supreme Court

"He was here to represent someone on a pro bono case! His real heart was in giving everyone access to the legal system. He was compassionate to a fault...He's been such a very, very dear friend to so many of us."

Milwaukee County Circuit Judge Maxine White recalling the first time Eisenberg came to her courtroom and she had incorrectly assumed it was to see her.

"As Howard's counterpart dean, I had the wonderful opportunity to work with him on a variety of committees and commissions over the last few years. I always breathed a little easier knowing that Howard would be part of the enterprise. His consistent thoughtful and sound judgement always helped to move the process in a good direction. His selflessness and compassion set the example for all of us. Howard's death has had a profound effect on all of us at the U.W. Law School. We were very proud of him as an alumnus, and we cherished his friendship. We will miss him a great deal."

Kenneth B. Davis,
Dean of University of Wisconsin Law School

"Howard was probably the hardest-working person I've ever worked with, and it was all work that was done for the benefit of other people, not for the benefit of Howard. I have never known another attorney who I thought was more dedicated to the idea of justice... He loved the law, and he loved using the law to do the right thing."

Charles Goldner, Associate Dean with Eisenberg
at University of Arkansas, Little Rock

"It's a great loss to us. I was very impressed with the breadth of his knowledge, his competence, his ability to focus, his compassion for all sides of the issue. I was very impressed with his humanity."

Rev. Donald Hands,
Episcopal Priest, Psychologist-Supervisor,
Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility

Eisenberg was a member of the District of Columbia Bar, Illinois Bar and Wisconsin Bar. He argued over 300 appellate cases before state and federal courts, including two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. He wrote widely and presented dozens of continuing legal education programs in the areas of criminal procedure, legal ethics, elder-law, and civil rights. He was a member of the Wisconsin Board of Bar Examiners and served as chair of the board in 2001. He was immediate past chair of the Appellate Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin and served as chair of the Seventh Circuit Rules Advisory Committee since 1998. He was also a fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, the Wisconsin Law Foundation and the American Bar Foundation.

This past year, Eisenberg was appointed chair of a special commission to advise the Archbishop of Milwaukee on issues relating to sexual abuse by priests in the Catholic Church. The Governor of Wisconsin had also appointed him to co-chair a special committee to recommend changes to the Wisconsin corrupt practices act.

Among the many honors bestowed on Eisenberg are Outstanding Achievement Award from Illinois Governor James Thompson in 1989 for his work in combating elder abuse and the first Walter J. Cummings Award in 1992 as the outstanding court appointed attorney in the Seventh Federal Judicial Circuit. He received the award a second time in 2002. Eisenberg also received several awards recognizing his commitment to pro bono legal services.

Funeral services were held June 6th at Temple Menorah in Milwaukee. The Eisenberg family has requested that donations go to Marquette University Law School, where it will be earmarked for the specific purpose of supporting pro bono work by providing scholarship funds for students doing public interest work.

Shirley Wiegand, the associate dean of the Law School at Marquette summed it best during her eulogy of Howard. "When I have talked to people in the last two days, they describe Howard as their hero, a giant of a man, or a man with a heart and soul so large that his generosity and kindness had no end. We loved and respected Howard for his honesty and his integrity. We all grieve today because he shared that heart with all of us. We cannot believe that that generous kind good heart could have stopped so suddenly. But we now have an obligation to keep his heart beating in all of us. I will tell you what Howard would have told you, 'Stop talking about me! Do well and do good.'"

This article is a summation of documents in the archives of the Chicago Coin Club and the many tributes and accolades posted on Web to honor Mr. Eisenberg. If you would care to read more about Mr. Eisenberg, go to <http://www.wisbar.org/newscenter/feature/2002/0605.asp>.

Important Dates

July	10	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Andrius Plioplys on <i>Lithuanian Banknote Proofs from the 1920s</i>
August	14	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker <i>to be announced</i>
September	11	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Dr. James McCormick on <i>Microscopic Images of Coins and Paper Money Produced by J.B. Dancer</i>
October	9	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker <i>to be announced</i>

Birthday and Year Joined

August	1	Reid J. Geisler	1995
August	2	William Swoger	1984
August	11	Clifford Mishler	1995
August	15	Steven R. Rodin	1991
August	19	Carl F. Wolf	1979
August	20	Melvyn Frear	1989
August	26	Tom DeLorey	1984
August	26	Donald H. Doswell	1960
August	29	James M. Rondinelli	1997
August	31	Clarence R. Wills	1999

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

**CHICAGO COIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2301
CHICAGO, IL 60690**

Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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Chatter



August, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 8

August 2002

Minutes of the 1002nd Meeting

President Carl Wolf called the 1002nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order on June 12, 2002 at 7:02PM. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the May meeting minutes as they appeared in the *Chatter*.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly gave a treasury report as follows:

Dreyfus Money Market	\$1845.38
Bank One CD	1437.59
Bank One CD	1435.72
TCF Checking Account	2393.41
Un-deposited Funds	44.00
TOTAL	\$7,156.10

Two guests were present: William Riles and Steve Norton.

Vice President Bob Feiler noted that member Andy Plioplyus will speak at the July meeting. James McCormick will speak at the September meeting. No speaker is yet scheduled for the October meeting. Bob introduced club member Mark Wieclaw and cited his laudatory numismatic credentials. Mark's topic was "Perspectives on Numismatics".

Mark offered his perspective on our hobby as a collector, exhibitor, club officer, show director and as a coin dealer.

Mark became interested in collecting after looking at his father in law's

collection. Mark handled the liquidation of that collection after his Father in law passed away and urged collectors to organize their specimens and collect quality rather than quantity. Mark relayed the pleasure we derive from showing our collections and the camaraderie we experience when traveling to shows with fellow collectors. Many publications are available today and hobbyists should make use of them. Mark was a faithful reader - cover to cover - of many, but today finds them somewhat repetitive and focusing on how good or bad the US Mint is doing it's job.

As an exhibitor, Mark was awarded the 1998 Best of Show in Michigan. Mark noted that this was certainly a prized achievement, but the pleasure must be in the showing. It is difficult to achieve a common basis for judging, as qualified judges may not be available at all shows. As with any institution/group, politics also enters into decision-making. Mark cited examples of first hand experience in judging that were in conflict with his understanding of the criteria.

Memberships in clubs are wonderful opportunities to share your hobby. It is a forum in which to learn and exchange material. Mark shared his thoughts on club leadership as a way to "give back" to the hobby and suggested that resume building would be a poor reason to hold office and detrimental to the organization.

Coin shows are a challenge to organize. Mark worked extensively on the Illinois Numismatic Association shows. He spent significant time and effort in relocating this show from Peoria to Chicago with the belief that more people would attend if it were in Chicago. His experience was that ballroom rentals were twice as expensive. Catering and hospitality costs were unbelievable. Dealers tended not to participate as a result. Most clubs do host coin shows. The Chicago Coin Club is one of the few that does not.

Mark is a coin dealer. That is his livelihood. Collectors should be mindful that dealers are not hobbyists when they are at work. They need to make a profit. The time a dealer spends with a customer is an investment. Mark suggested that haggling over price should be done with class and avoided on the \$2 and \$3 items. Most dealers prefer transactions in cash. If you are selling to a dealer, Mark suggested that if you intend to sell, sell to a small enterprise. Have the material organized and inventoried so the more valuable material can be easily identified. The time it takes a dealer to organize a potential purchase is a real cost to the dealer. If you are purchasing material, be cautious of prices realized in auction. These are easily inflated.

Some of Marks favorite lines from customers are: "I have a penny with Lincoln and Kennedy on it. Is it rare?" "I have a buffalo Nickel in Mint State with no date on it." "What should I buy?" "Will gold go up?"

Vice President Bob Feiler thanked Mark for his presentation and awarded the featured speakers medal & and the educational certificate to him.

Second Vice President Don Dool announced there were 9 show & tell presenters:

- Bob Weinstein - Several Scythian coins from 30BC to 5AD
- Bob Feiler - Civil War bond, \$2 State of Indiana Note, 1837 Trust Certificate, Microscopic Photo
- Lyle Daly - Rochester Numismatic Association Medal
- Carl Wolf - African Trade Beads
- Mike Metras - His new book on CD, *Travels of a Youth* & Mike's military drivers license signed by fellow member Steve Zitowsky
- Mark Weiclaw - Buffalo nickel pop out, gold eagle w/ planchet flaw, 3 ancient double strikes.
- Sharon Blocker - South African 1Rand, Novelty note, Aruba coinage & photos of the Aruba currency museum and catsup bottle labeled "sunscreen for French fries"
- Don Dool - Discount card Ben Franklin stores, Furth & Campbell site draft, and scrap from counterfeiting operation.

Reading of Applications for Membership:

There were no first readings for membership.

The following candidates for membership had their names read for a second time: Steve Norton and Thomas Pupp. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve their membership. (*Writer notes that Thomas Pupp was actually approved for membership at the 1001st meeting.*)

Carl Wolf reported that he referred the life membership application of Michael Brodsky to the life membership and that Mike's application was approved.

Old Business:

Mark Wieclaw presented to the club archives, the silver 1000th meeting medal #1, the "gold select" medal #100 and the lead trial strike. Mark also

noted that a Gold Medal from the 1000th meeting is available for approximately \$2,700. Also available are medals from the 80th anniversary of the Chicago Coin Club.

New Business:

The ANA will present a 90 Year Membership Certificate to the CCC at the New York convention. Robert Leonard will be present and will accept on behalf of the club.

Paul Hybert announced that he is no longer associated with the University but will have access to his email for several months. Consequently he asked that all materials sent to him for publication in the *Chatter* be submitted in TEXT format.

Lyle Daly reviewed the club mail and noted a letter regarding a Texas coin dealer, Brent Bogus and difficulties that a customer was experiencing with that dealer. The letter is available for further review by members.

It was noted that dealer David Lawrence and member Howard Eisenberg passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Minutes of the 1003rd Meeting

President Carl Wolf called the 1003rd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order on July 10, 2002 at 7:04PM. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

The June meeting minutes did not appear in the *Chatter*. Approval of the minutes was deferred until next month.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly gave a treasury report as follows:

Dreyfus Money Market	\$1852.43
Bank One CD	1437.59
Bank One CD	1435.72
TCF Checking Account	2165.01
Un-deposited Funds	108.03
TOTAL	\$6,999.05

One guest was present: William Riles.

Second Vice President Don Dool introduced club member Audrius Plioplys MD, known to fellow members as Andy Plioplys. Don cited Andy's numerous interests and credentials. Andy's topic was *Lithuanian Banknote Proofs from the 1920s*.

The notes in Andy's collection were purchased from a broker by an elderly friend of Andy's. The notes were found in the wall of an office building, in a brief case. Andy discussed the history of Lithuania and it's fluctuating borders, focusing on the period around World War I.

Prior to the hyperinflation of 1922, Lithuania's currency was linked to the German Mark but switched to the US dollar. The interim notes for this transition were printed in Germany. The permanent notes were printed in Czechoslovakia in 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 centas and 1, 2, 5, 10, 50 and 100 Litas. Beginning in 1925 coinage for centas began to circulate and the notes rapidly disappeared from circulation.

Andy presented some original paste up art from the plates for centas. Andy speculated on the origin of the collection. It is unlikely that it was a presentation portfolio as it contained mirror image prints, examples printed on cigarette paper and items of "poor quality". Andy proposed that this was from the Bank of Trade & Commerce in Vilnius. The Minister of Finance, Petrulis, was the funnel for the notes from Czechoslovakia to the Lithuanian government. The Minister was president of the Bank of Trade & Commerce when it failed. It is known that he served prison time as a result. It is possible that he had the opportunity and motive to hide this collection during the 1920's in hopes of retrieving it later. The minister was executed in Siberia.

Don Dool thanked Andy for his presentation and awarded the featured speaker's medal and the educational certificate to him.

Second Vice President Don Dool announced there were 11 show & tell presenters:

1. Sharon Blocker - Savings and Loan Exonomia and a Antarctica \$2 Note
2. Mark Weiclaw - 4 ancient coins , one purchased from Tom Bray, star of *Riptide*
3. Bob Weinstein - 3 Coins of Constantinople
4. Alex Basok - 2 Soviet coins on off metal planchets
5. Terry Capps - Federal Reserve Star Notes from circulation
6. Carl Wolf - Article on decorating with primitive money, cross money
7. Robert Leonard - Numismatic literature.
8. Steve Huber - Several Thalers and commemorative pieces
9. Jeff Rosinia - Alaskan gold rush information and gold dust from his trip to Alaska
10. Lyle Daly - FRN Star notes, circulation finds and metal detection results from his lawn
11. Don Dool - four coins and an article by Don in a South American Coin publication.

Reading of Applications for Membership:

There was one reading for membership. William Riles had his name read for the first time.

Old Business:

The ANA will present a 90 Year Membership Certificate to the CCC at the New York convention. Robert Leonard will be present and will accept on behalf of the club.

New Business:

President Carl Wolf noted that a small group reviewed the contents of the safe deposit box. This group will recommend to the board what material will be kept and what unrelated material and duplicate material should be placed in the November Auction.

President Carl Wolf also advised membership that a board meeting will be held prior to our August meeting.

Members were advised that club memorabilia will be available in the Stacks

July 17th auction.

Members were advised of a burglary at Westlake Cards Comics and Coins in Glendale.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Speaker's Wor[l]d **Lithuanian Banknote Proofs from the 1920s**

Presented by Andrius Plioplys to our July 10, 2002 meeting.

Are you shocked, *shocked* by the current financial scandals and troubles? Need a break? Then read on to learn about Lithuania's financial troubles in the 1920s, along with some numismatic relics of that period.

Six years ago, Andrius bought a group of apparent Lithuanian bank notes from a man in Toronto, who had obtained them from a man in Kaunas, Lithuania. Allegedly found during the remodelling of an old building, most details are known only to those directly involved and they are not talking. Andrius could not obtain the identity of the building in Kaunas, but his research led him to the start of independent Lithuania's financial system and the figure of Vytautas Petrulis (1890-1942).

Prior to independence, the circulating currency was denominated in a non-native mixture of rubles and marks. Lithuania gained its independence from Russia on February 16, 1918, following Russia's collapse after surrendering to Germany in WW I. Loan agreements with German banks guaranteed continued use of "ost-marks" (tied to the German mark) as the official currency. Among examples Andrius showed were 1 and 3 ruble notes, and 2 and 5 mark notes.

Following Poland's 1920 invasion and occupation of much territory, including the capital Vilnius, bank notes were issued in the Polish language.

The units of account were the first to acquire local names; from January 1920, all accounting used *auksinas* (instead of mark, ost-mark, and ruble) and *statikas* (instead of pfennig and kapeika). However, no money was issued

in those denominations, and *cent* replaced *statikas* in 1922.

In spite of the local names, the Lithuanian system still was tied to the German mark, and the German inflation and then hyper-inflation took its toll. A new currency was introduced on August 9, 1922, with the *litas* equal in value to 0.15 grams of gold (or one U.S. dime). The Bank of Lithuania was established on August 11, 1922, and was allowed to print paper money for 20 years. The four members of its board of directors put up capital of 12,000,000 litas. The first bank notes were hastily printed in Berlin, with the contract signed on August 30 and note delivery on September 20. Very primitive, these notes were issued in denominations of 1, 20, and 50 cent, and 1 and 5 litas.

More permanent bank notes were made by Andreas Haase Lithographic Printers of Prague, under a contract of August 29, 1922. The cent denominated pieces (1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50) used standard designs and backgrounds, but the litas denominated pieces (1, 2, 5, 10, 50, and 100) used designs overseen by the bank. Cent notes were issued November 16, 1922, in series A, B, C, and most letters of the alphabet. The designs of the litas notes reflect their importance relative to the subsidiary cent notes; serial numbers, more signatures, and reference to their gold value. But sometimes the temptation is too great, and Andrius explained that the portrait of Gedimas (a medieval Lithuanian historical figure) on the 50 litas note is actually of the artist who designed the notes in Prague.

A 1924 issue was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson, and the first coinage was introduced in 1925. But it is the Prague notes that are central to this story. Andrius showed many pieces from the hoard; all were cent denominated, but they were not of the regular issue, being of varied quality, printed on various paper, and in varied formats.

The first hoard item was of the 1 cent design with paste downs of signatures; followed by similar examples of the 2 cent and 5 cent notes. Andrius could not determine whether the pieces were printed or hand drawn. (Unless stated otherwise, each of the displayed pieces was a uniface example of series A.)

Andrius showed many 1 cent notes, using different printing inks and different backgrounds. Since these used neither the ink nor background of the official notes, you may wonder, "What are they?" Andrius' and the members' opinions on that waited until more pieces from all of the cent denominations were shown. (First present the evidence, then present a theory.)

Among the more than 20 2 cent notes shown, two pieces were odd even for this group. The "mirror image" note was produced by introducing paper between the original and transfer rollers. The 2 *centai* (plural form) denomination rather than the 2 *centu* (two form) points out an interesting aspect of the Lithuanian language; in addition to the singular and plural forms of nouns, there also is a "two form."

The 5 cent notes had many oddities; thin paper (tissue or cigarette paper), mirrors in many different colors, and a generally poor quality.

Only one 10 cent note was shown, a proof.

The 20 cent notes included heavy card stock and large size (large borders) in addition to more of the thin paper and poor quality. Also, these were of series E and H instead of the typical series A.

Completing the individual pieces, the one 50 cent note was printed on thin paper. But the hoard contained a few more pieces; a block of a 5, 10, 20, and 50 (with each note in a different color), and then a block of four different reverses. Andrius knows neither the condition nor arrangement when the hoard was found, but hinge remnants on some pieces indicate some effort at collecting or organizing. It is known that about 20 sets of proof notes had been produced and distributed to legislators, but the poor hoard quality prevents our identifying the hoard as one of those sets. Also, the hand written notes (of printing terms) in Czech and German imply "working" copies. Having examined the hoard, what could we make of it?

Andrius' opinion is that the hoard came from a government building in Kaunas, most likely the Bank of Lithuania which was built from 1925 to 1928. Vytautas Petrulis, as Minister of Finance, had signed the contracts for the Berlin and Prague print jobs, and the official proof books had been delivered to him. It would have been very easy for him to have asked for "extras," or maybe the printers gave him items to smooth things.

Petrulis was a director of a bank in Klaipeda from 1919 to 1922, and during the summer of 1922 he was very vocal in supporting the establishment of Lithuania's own currency. In addition to serving as Finance Minister from August 1, 1922 to September 25, 1925, he also was Prime Minister for most of 1925. He is considered the father of the litas, and was an important man whom people trusted and would try to please.

But in 1925 the Klaipeda bank went bankrupt, and charges were placed when

it was discovered that the Finance Ministry had kept funds in that bank. After serving one and a half years in jail, he retired to his dairy farm; after the Soviet invasion, he was sent to Siberia and shot.

Andrius believes that the hoard was hidden in 1925, before Petrulis' conviction and disgrace. After his conviction, Petrulis no longer had full and easy access to the building.

Alex Basok started the members' comments with a brief overview of the paper money design process. At each of many steps, from artist's conception to final product, proofs are made; there are artist's proofs, printer's proofs, and color proofs. He believes that the Minister asked the printers for everything, and thinks that the site of the hoard was the Ministry of Finance.

Other members also contributed thoughts and theories, and Andrius concluded the program by noting that similar "unique" and strange items are appearing on eBay.

Important Dates

- | | | |
|-----------|----|--|
| August | 14 | CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Alex Basok on <i>Steps of the Investigative Numismatist</i> |
| September | 11 | CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Dr. James McCormick on <i>Microscopic Images of Coins and Paper Money</i>
<i>Produced by J.B. Dancer</i> |
| October | 9 | CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker <i>to be announced</i> |
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Birthday and Year Joined

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------|------|
| October 13 | Bernard L. Schwartz | 1986 |
| October 14 | Joel J. Reznick | 1981 |
| October 14 | Warren G. Schultz | |
| October 17 | Margo Russell | |
| October 19 | Phyllis Eisenberg | 1968 |
-
-

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Sharon Blocker** started the evening's program with varied items:

- ☐ Exonomia from Savings & Loans, including: an Indian Head cent set, an ash tray with 5 Lincoln cents, and an ice cube tray from Columbus Federal S & L.
- ☐ A U.S. mint medal.
- ☐ \$1 and \$2 paper money of the Antarctic Overseas Exchange Office Ltd., from 1999.

2. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some ancient Roman coins:

- ☐ A provincial coin of Diadumenian as Caesar (217-218 AD) from Moesia Inferior.



- ☐ A denarius of Maximinus (235-238 AD) with a bust of Serapis on the obverse, while the reverse shows Ises sailing to the Pharos lighthouse, which is the same design as used hundreds of years earlier on an Alexandrian piece.
- ☐ A silvered coin from Antioch during the time of Maximinus II, 309-313 AD, with Hercules strangling a lion on the reverse. This coin was bought at CICF from dealer Thom Bray who was in the TV show *Rip Tide* years ago; Tom still writes some screenplays.



- ☐ A half siliqua from the time of Constantine, with a star on obverse and wreath on reverse. (See Bob Weinstein's exhibits for similar pieces.)
- 3. **Bob Weinstein** showed three siliqua votive issues. Votive issues refer to vows originally taken every 10 years, but later shortened to 5 years; on anniversary of rule.
 - ☐ This was issued by Valens (364-378) who was a brother of Valentinian. It honors 10 years, and hopefully 20 (hence the X and XX).
 - ☐ A votive coin by Gratian, for 5 years and hopefully 10.



- ☐ A votive coin by Valens, thought to be a "for military" issue due to the M after the CON mintmark for Constantinople.
- 4. **Alex Basok** showed two wrong-metal coins:
 - ☐ A 1988 5 kopeck coin from the Soviet Union. Not only struck in copper-nickel instead of brass, close examination revealed signs of the underlying 50 kopeck coin.
 - ☐ A previously unknown 1915 2 kopeck coin struck in steel. Given as a gift ten years ago in London, people did not know what it was. The same reeding count and shape as on the circulating brass pieces indicate this coin was struck from original dies. Researching the coin while at the Hermitage led nowhere, until an archive director remembered a note about

"bringing seven steel coins" between departments; seven was the number of brass coin types.

5. **Terry Capps** recounted his recent finds of U.S. star notes from circulation. After receiving a \$1 star note in change at a chocolate shop, and wondering how to get it home unfolded, he asked the cashier and now has some consecutively numbered \$1 star notes. He also recently received \$5 and \$20 star notes.
6. **Carl Wolf** continued his exhibiting theme of primitive money with:
 - ☐ An article from the Wall Street Journal about the CEO of eLaw Forum. The accompanying photograph showed an office decorated with primitive African money.
 - ☐ An H-shaped copper ingot from Zimbabwe. Not much information on primitive money is found in coin books, but some numismatic information is presented as part of a larger work. For instance, the *Red Gold of Africa* is about copper, but it has line drawings of numismatic items.
7. One of **Bob Leonard's** current interests is California Gold. The standard references in that area include the Menjou Catalogue, the Breen-Gillio book, and the Jay Roe book; but they contain some errors and lack the information learned since their publication. Bob showed marked-up copies of those references with notable provenances: inscribed to A. Kosoff from Ed Lee, the New Netherlands office copy, from Ron Gillio's library, from Walter Breen's library, and from the Bass library sale. Each had many notes or clippings. For the specialist, there is no such thing as "too many copies" of a book.
8. **Steve Huber** is dedicated to photographing his coins. Among the large silver pieces shown were:
 - ☐ 1691 Kremnitz. Leopold I on obverse.
 - ☐ 1705 Olmutz. Duke of Lorraine on obverse.
 - ☐ 1725 Hall mint, Austria. The only wear is on the cheek bulge.
 - ☐ 1760 Salzburg. Sigismund III on obverse, and St. Rupert seated with Madonna and child on reverse.
 - ☐ 1769 Vienna. Order Thaler of Joseph II, acquired from the Goodman sale.
 - ☐ 1928 Salzburg. Honoring the 300th anniversary of the cathedral, the reverse design features the cathedral and is from 1628.
 - ☐ 1918 Eritrea. *A provo talero*, listed as a pattern by Krause.
9. **Jeff Rosinia** brought some souvenirs from his trip to Alaska. The Ace Hardware store in Skagway had five sizes of pans, so he bought one, went out to a creek, and showed us the resulting few flakes in a vial.
10. **Lyle Daly** showed some recent finds:
 - ☐ Four \$1 star notes from Wendy's; series 1999 and consecutively

numbered.

- From rolls of cents, a 1919-S and a 1973-S with a lamination.
- A survey of his 6,000 square foot lot with a borrowed metal detector turned up some junk metal and 91 Lincoln cents.

11. **Don Dool** continued some of his favorite themes:

- 1571 pfennig of Brandenburg in Franconia (northern Bavaria). Struck under Albrecht Friedrich (1569-1618). Purchased from Alex Basok at CICF, x-ray analysis showed enough silver to qualify as billon.



- 1621 flitter of Einbeck. Einbeck is a small city in Lower Saxony that "grew up around the monastery of St. Alexander." It was first recorded as a town in 1274. It was a member of the Hanseatic League and had its own local coinage from sometime before 1504 until about 1691.
 - 1622 kreuzer of Bistum of Augsburg. This see was founded around 887 by Bishop Adelbero von Dillingen and coinage began sometime in the middle of the tenth century. In 1807 the bishopric was secularized and became part of Bavaria. This coin was minted during the administration of Heinrich V von Knoeringen.
 - 1622 kreuzer of Chur Pfalz. Chur Pfalz is also referred to as Pfalz, Kurlinie and the Rhenish Palatinate. The first mention of the Count Palatine of the Rhine, the highest imperial representative in the area, was in the tenth century. This electoral post was held from 1610 to 1623 by Friedrich V, the "Winter King" of Bohemia.
 - In the mail from Buenos Aires was a numismatic bulletin with one of Don's articles (translated into Spanish).
-

2002 ANA Summer Seminar

By Mike Metras
mike@worksandwords.com

"Where do you wanna start. I don't know. You tell me. It's your auction," Sonny Henry begins another item at the American Numismatic Association's (ANA) Summer Seminar Young Numismatist (YN) Scholarship Benefit Auction. A highlight of every summer seminar, the two-session auction, where bidders pay outlandish prices for donated items that this year included President John Wilson's sweat shirt, brought in over \$17,000 to be used for YN scholarships to next year's seminar. A \$1,000 bottle of water highlighted three hours of fun and laughter Wednesday evening.

Checking in the previous Saturday morning, I headed for my brand new Colorado College dorm room. My friend Rich and I shared a room with two others. Rather, I should say we each had a separate sleeping room that adjoined a cathedral-ceilinged, living and cable-TV room, kitchen, and bath quad complex. Fans and crosswinds compensated well for the lack of air conditioning. Nice digs. No wonder college costs more these days.

This was my eighth seminar in nine years, I knew the routine. Renewing a lot of old acquaintances, the impressive Colorado Springs coin show, welcoming speeches, a concert by the Doe Brothers, and the ANA Library's book sale filled Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday morning as we waited for classes to begin Sunday at one. The library uses the captive audience to sell off extra books it accumulates over the year. Some leave with full boxes of books while others with one or two special goodies at rock-bottom prices.

This year Rich and I took a class on Asian Coins. Others took classes on grading, US copper coins, Mexican coins, English coins, Ancient coins in various flavors, Military currency, and a number of others, 30 different ones in all. The 200-plus students study one basic topic for the week.

George Fisher and Bill Spengler told eight of us more than we could begin to retain about Chinese, Indo-Greek, Parthian, Ashokan, Korean, Islamic, and Indian coins of all times. Among so many others, they told us of coins of the generals of Alexander the Great, of ancient Chinese dynasties, of the Sultan of Thousand and One Nights, of Marco Polo, and of Genghis Khan. Ken Bressett made a cameo appearance to talk about Chinese struck coins. Joe

Boling followed to tell us of Japanese coins.

The class was a marvelous overview with many wonderful examples to fondle. But in the end, the amount of information was overwhelming to the point that we went away with little more than lists of names and places and countries and rulers. I wouldn't have missed it for anything, but at the same time it could have easily been three separate classes. They have had it as two classes before. But there is the little matter of interest. This was at least the third or fourth year I had tried for the Chinese class and the third for the Islamic. All were canceled. As it was, this time our class of eight was divided down the center in interest - if the classes had been separate, four of us would have signed up for Chinese and four for Islamic - and neither class would have happened because a class requires five or it is canceled.

In addition to the main seminars, "mini" seminars provided additional chances to learn. Among others, using Gallery Mint Museum equipment, Ron Landis and Joe Rust taught how mint errors happen in their Creative Error seminar. Students made all kinds of errors. And Susan Nulty of the ANA MIS department demonstrated their state-of-the-art image scanning and photographing equipment. I attended the latter and learned how Susan scans 14 bills of the Bass collection at a time at 5,240 dots per inch resolution on a high-end, state-of-the-art, flat-bed scanner. The aim is to have a full library of electronic images of the collection. Then, using an electronic studio camera, I took an image of a Chinese ten cash coin at the same resolution. I don't know what I'd ever use such a high resolution image for (other than forensics), but I was impressed. The equipment, valued in the high six digits, is on loan to the ANA at no cost to them. They also use the images to produce museum-quality prints. An outside company makes very high quality, photo-electronic prints at \$15 a square foot, a very reasonable price when you realize that, that is only \$90 for a 24" by 36" print.

When all planned activities were over each day, we whiled away the evenings sitting and talking on the veranda making and renewing friendships that last a long time after the week is over.

A gala banquet and awards ceremony ended it all Thursday evening. By breakfast the next morning, the college cafeteria (our eating and meeting place) was already devoid of many now-familiar faces. The party was over.

As others left for the airport to return to their regular lives, I headed for a week in the Colorado mountains where I walked up canyons and down trails. First stop, thanks to a bull session by Dave Jaeger Monday night on "From

Mine to Mill to Mint" about Colorado mining, was a metal detector shop in Golden where I bought a gold pan. Next stop, a promising place on the river along Route 6. I walked away a couple hours later with an aching back and a few flakes of gold in my bottle. And I had totally convinced myself that making a living that way could be rather backbreaking!

I walked miles in Glenwood Canyon and environs. Then I headed upland where the trickster, the coyote, visited me twice and chipmunks climbed my leg begging peanuts from me as I sat reading under evergreens on a remote mountain top far from the mass of civilization. The days were hot and dry and the nights cool. Every afternoon brought clouds and thunder and lightning and wind but only drops of rain. The drought continued but, no, all of Colorado was not on fire.

All too soon I was back home tired and relaxed and already looking forward to another week in Colorado next year. Lest you think this is all there is to the seminar, I have left out more than I told. My story is only enough to entice you into thinking seriously about attending some time, maybe next year. It costs less than a comparable week in almost any other vacation destination you can think of. Check it out at www.money.org or read details about the earlier seminars at www.worksandwords.com/writings.htm.

Our 1004th Meeting

Date: August 14, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Alex Basok - *Steps of the Investigative Numismatist*

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

**CHICAGO COIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2301
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Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: **Lyle Daly**
 William Burd
 Jeff Rosinia
 Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

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Chatter



September, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 9

September 2002

Minutes of the 1004th Meeting

Minutes of the 1004th Meeting Chicago Coin Club August 14, 2002

President Carl Wolf called the 1004th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order on August 14, 2002 at 7:04PM. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

A motion was made seconded and approved to accept the June and July meeting minutes as they appear in the *Chatter*.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly did not give a treasury report but advised the members that there was no activity in the accounts since last month.

President Carl Wolf announced that member John Ross passed away and asked the membership to stand for a moment of silence.

There were no guests present.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced club member Alex Basok. Alex attended Medical school in Leningrad and came to the United States in 1976. He has been involved in numismatics in the US and employed by Rarcoa and Harlan Berk. He now owns his own coin dealership. The title of his talk is *Steps of the Investigative Numismatist*.

Alex cited several examples of numismatic sleuthing. He discussed coins that were pierced and attributed as "Gypsy" coins (coins used in jewelry). Jewelry pieces are typically drilled. Examination of the coins indicated that they were pierced with a hot wire element and wire fragments remained in some of the specimens, an indication of piercing being an intentional accounting procedure.

Robert Feiler thanked Alex for his presentation and awarded the featured speakers medal & and the educational certificate to him.

Second Vice President Don Dool announced there were 10 show & tell presenters:

- ☐ Sharon Blocker - Notgeld purchased on Ebay
- ☐ Steve Huber - Spectacular US pattern dollars by Morgan and Barber
- ☐ Bob Feiler - An altered \$1 bill raised in value to \$5 and \$2 bills from circulation with state flag postage, cancelled in Chicago, affixed to the bill
- ☐ Bob Weinstein - 8 European Scythian coins
- ☐ Mark Weiclaw - Mercury dime die break, dime missing a nickel clad layer, 1964 quarter w/ shaved reverse and inscription, a liberty nickel wheat cent magician's set, a stunning gold replica of a Sacajawea dollar, and a Septimius Servus denarius .
- ☐ Mike Metras - Ultra high resolution scans (5420dpi) of coins he studied at the ANA Summer session
- ☐ Robert Leonard - Elongated cents from the NYC ANA courtesy of John Wilson, his numismatic literary award presented to him at the ANA and 3 coins of Venice
- ☐ Carl Wolf - Primitive money, Iron Currency bar.
- ☐ Audrius Plioplys - First coin of Lithuania circa 1350 (out bid Bank of Lithuania)
- ☐ Don Dool - 3 coins of various German states.

Reading of Applications for Membership:

There was a second reading for membership. William Riles had his name read. A motion was made seconded and approved to accept William as a member of the Chicago Coin Club.

Old Business:

Robert Leonard presented to the club the ANA 90 Year Membership Certificate which he received on behalf of the club at the New York convention. Robert advised the club that the Rochester Numismatic Society also received their 90-year membership certificate which was accepted by Charles Ricard, their most senior member and a member of the CCC.

New Business:

President Carl Wolf noted that the ILNA show is September 6-8. He also advised members that Chet Poderski is under the weather and that the club wishes him well.

Secretary Lyle Daly noted that the club received a letter from Thailand offering an 1804 dollar for \$1,000,000. The coin pictured was an obvious fake.

Robert Feiler proposed investigating an alternative location for the year end banquet. Lyle Daly agreed to assist in that investigation

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Birthday and Year Joined

September	1	Fred K. White	1991
September	2	John Wilson	1984
September	7	James M. McMenamin	1975
September	18	Michael M. Dolnick	1952
September	18	Gregory Gajda	1999
September	19	Russell F. Wajda	2000
September	21	Kerry K. Wetterstrom	1999
September	24	Michael A. Pasha	1979
September	25	Saul Needleman	1992
September	26	Dennis P. Ciechna	1999
September	27	Edward Stevens	1996
September	29	Gordon R. Donnell	1999

Important Dates

- September 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker Dr. James McCormick
on *Microscopic Images of Coins and Paper Money*
Produced by J.B. Dancer
- October 9 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker *to be announced*
- November 13 CCC Meeting - Club Auction - no featured speaker
-

Speaker's Worl[d]

Steps of the Investigative Numismatist

Presented by Alex Basok to our August 14, 2002 meeting.

Why do people collect coins? Alex believes we should not spend much time analyzing our motivations; just do it if it gives you pleasure. The hunt is part of the attraction - for a cheap one, a fascinating piece, completion of a set - some people are interested in who might have held the coin.

But it is the analysis of the actual coins that keeps Alex's attention, and offers such a wide opportunity to gain knowledge. Starting from the fact that most things on a coin are put there intentionally, and everything has a meaning, we can see that varieties are important - their study leads somewhere.

As his major case study for the evening, Alex recounted his experiences with some gold coins in the name of the Russian emperor Alexander II. Although the size of Austrian 4 ducats, the emperor's titles are wrong and there are errors in the heraldry. Long ago, Willy Fuchs had attributed them to a mint in Jugoslavia, and that conclusion was widely accepted and repeated; but to Alex the pieces did not "look right" for a product of Jugoslavia.

Fuchs was a knowledgeable collector of Eastern European coinage, and had many high-level government contacts in the Soviet Union; as a German officer captured early in World War II, he ended up working in a factory in the Urals where he met a number of future Soviet leaders. To demonstrate the strength of Willy's contacts, Alex told the story, possibly anecdotal, of how Willy had mentioned in passing that he was looking for a few specific (rare) pieces; soon thereafter, a courier arrived bearing the pieces! That brought an envious laugh from the audience, and someone jokingly asked if the coins were original or "command restrikes;" producing another laugh from our members. But not from Alex; he stated that is a valid concern when dealing with secretive bureaucrats (a theme that would be revisited later in the talk).

Why was the Jugoslavian attribution accepted for so long? The look of the coins made it plausible, and no one had seriously studied the pieces. Virtually all pieces come holed, so assuming they were used on bracelets and calling them Gypsy pieces seemed reasonable. But Alex noted that on all pieces holes were pierced and never drilled, and that use in jewelry would leave distinctive wear marks around the hole - marks lacking on most pieces.

Over time, Alex accumulated 41 distinct types of these pieces, but not all types were of Alexander II; Austrian and Bulgarian rulers also were found. The more he studied them the more they called out "Bulgarian" to him. So he gathered his findings, had some excellent color photographs taken, and produced a book on the subject!

So what did he conclude about the pieces? An emergency coinage produced by private manufacturers before World War I. The holes are an artifact of handling these pieces of widely varying weight; he described how other coinages of varying weights would be tied together in bundles of a standard weight, with extra heavy and light pieces used to adjust the gross weight of each bundle.

Sometimes tools are needed to answer a question. Once for a conference, Alex had the task of labelling a group of coins as genuine or not. He made a composite image from five of the coins, and showed a virtually flawless obverse with large pearls around the border. The smaller pearls (of a different number) observed on the reverse proved that the dies for each side were made with the use of two different sets of tools. Digital cameras and photo editing programs for personal computers are powerful tools for numismatists.

One of Alex's current research efforts lies in the die varieties of Soviet coins; some varieties are very rare. The 3 kopeck coins are known to be struck with the dies intended for 20 kopek issue and vice versa. Both denominations had dies of the same diameter. Each metal has its own unique shape to the ribbons around the wreath.

Alex concluded by encouraging us to really look at our coins. When all original printed records are destroyed, the coins remain and have much to tell those who listen. There are many things we can learn from the devices on coins; from hairstyle and clothing aspects from Roman coins, to Alex's work on Bulgarian coins. In response to a question from the audience, Alex commented on the Bulgarian gold pieces on the market; they look perfect, so are they restrikes? Alex said no, and believes they came from Swiss bankers who had loaned money to Bulgaria against their gold reserves. The loans went bad and the collateral was turned over, but the coins' numismatic value was greater than their gold value. So to avoid embarrassment or worse, the Bulgarian politicians claim that the coins are recent restrikes with no extra numismatic value. But after comparing the quality of the gold pieces to the quality of the Sofia mint production made for circulation in the 1990s, Alex called such claims "laughable," and reminded us that it is better to examine coins than to listen to bureaucrats.

Our 1005th Meeting

Date: September 11, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.

Featured speaker: Dr. James McCormick, Laboratory Director at Swedish Covenant Hospital, - *Microscopic Images of Coins and Paper Money Produced by J.B. Dancer*

During the Victorian era, microscopic slides were produced as a curiosity to satisfy the demand for miniature subjects which were very popular at the time. Dr. McCormick's collection of slides include many which feature early large size U.S. Bank Notes as well as coins; his presentation will feature selections from his collection.

Dr. McCormick has had a long interest in early microscopists. He has a very significant private collection of very early microscopes and a unique assortment of topical slide mounted subjects. He has co-authored a coffee table book on the life and achievements of J.B. Dancer who was one of the most distinguished producers of slide mounts in the 1800s.

Meeting agenda: The contents of the Club's lock box will be at the meeting. It's been reviewed and it will be recommended to put the duplicate and non-club material up for auction.

John G. Ross

1917 - 2002

John G. Ross passed away of congestive heart failure on August 4th in the DeKalb home of his son. He became member 605 at the January 1954 meeting of the Chicago Coin Club.

Ross started dealing in stamps while growing up in Germany. He felt a sense of adventure when we worked with the tiny colored lithographs and it was his job to properly mount all the stamps before putting them on sale at his father's tobacco shop.

Ross was Jewish and was threatened and oppressed when the Nazis came to power. He tried without success to receive a visa. Finally, in 1938 he wrote another stamp collector, Tom Jeffrey, in Hastings, England. Although Jeffrey was a stranger to him, Jeffrey sponsored Ross' visa to Great Britain. By selling stamps in England, Ross was able to save enough money to join his parents in Chicago in 1940.

Within a few years Ross set up a stamp and coin shop at State and Madison Streets where he remained for forty-years. He became an internationally known expert in stamp collecting and moved in a wide circle of dealers in Europe, Australia and Asia. For many years he wrote a weekly column for Linn's Stamp News, informing collectors on where stamp prices were headed and notices of newly issued stamps. From 1969 through the mid-1980s, Ross also wrote a stamp column for the Chicago Tribune.

When Doris, his wife of forty-years, passed away in 1985, Ross moved his stamp and coin business to 55 W. Monroe Street in downtown Chicago. As always, he was at work two days before his death. That Friday he spent the morning with his stamps before closing in the early afternoon to spend the weekend in DeKalb with his family.

Many considered Ross the dean of the Chicago stamp and coin business. He was quoted many times saying that stamps saved his life and he was repaying the debt by devoting himself to collecting, selling and promoting rare stamps.

Mr. Ross is survived by his son Neil, a daughter, Lisa, four grandchildren and a sister, Hilde Freeman. Services were held at The Piser Chapel, 5206 N. Broadway, Chicago and interment was at Rosehill Cemetery.

Show and Tell

1. **Sharon Blocker** recently started collecting Notgeld, and she showed a 25 pfennig piece picturing a train station (one of Sharon's collecting interests is trains). Then she showed other pieces bought because they struck her fancy - the artwork, details, and topics. She is just starting in this area, and is open to advice.
2. **Steve Huber** gave us a pop quiz, to identify U.S. silver dollars. We knew the Morgan, Eisenhower, and Peace dollars, but then came the interesting pieces:
 - ☐ 1878 mule of Morgan obverse and Barber reverse
 - ☐ 1879 Coiled Hair Barber Pattern.
 - ☐ 1879, as above, but in copper.
 - ☐ 1879 standard Morgan obverse with a unique pattern Barber reverse.
 - ☐ 1880 Barber metric dollar.
 - ☐ 1880, as above, in copper.We could not identify even one; let's blame it on the glare from the proof surfaces.
3. **Bob Feiler** showed mostly paper money:
 - ☐ Anticipating the redesign of U.S. paper money, he showed a bill from his collection; someone had taped the left and right edges of some \$5 bills onto a \$1 bill.
 - ☐ From his collection of bills stamped with various marks, a \$2 with small orange paw prints of Wheaton Warrenville High School mascot.
 - ☐ Recently acquired from a local bank, five \$2 notes with state stamps, postmarked in Chicago.
 - ☐ A silver 1971 Chicago Fire Centennial medal bought from John Ross in March, when Bob last visited his shop downtown.
4. **Bob Weinstein** showed coins of the European Scythians, from the western edge of the Black Sea. Greek cities in that area issued coins in the name of Scythian kings, in tribute to keep them at bay. Among the recurring major design elements were the "Gemini" twins, conjoined busts of Demeter and Persephone, head of Zeus, and horse heads. Most pieces had one or more countermarks, and the subject of the countermark would not be on the coin already.
5. **Mark Wieclaw** brought interesting items recently sold to the shop:
 - ☐ A "Mercury" dime with a large cud on the left side of the reverse.

- ❑ A 1965 Roosevelt dime with the obverse outer layer missing.
 - ❑ To remind us that there is no such thing as an "original roll" (the mint did not make rolls), a piece found in an "original roll." A Washington quarter with the reverse planed off before it was engraved; it lost one third of its weight.
 - ❑ A 1906 nickel hollowed out with a 1920-S Lincoln cent on half of it.
 - ❑ Forget about the government's "golden" dollar, here is a Sacajawea "gold" dollar in 8 or 9 carat gold. The artist who created it sold it for melt. Note the three diamonds on the obverse, and the holes on the reverse to let the light in.
 - ❑ A denarius of Septimus Severus, with an elephant wearing armor on the reverse.
6. **Mike Metras** used coin pictures printed on various color printers to show current printing quality. But since the print quality can be no better than the original acquired image, Mike had pictures of the same coin taken with different equipment. The high-end camera was used while he was at the ANA summer seminar, and has a resolution of 5400 dots per inch (dpi), and requires three minutes for a complete exposure; that camera scans rows at a time, unlike all lower resolution digital cameras which capture a full frame at a time.
 7. **Bob Leonard** started by showing items brought back from the recent ANA convention: a plastic bag of souvenirs, and an NLG Award for his article in *The Numismatist*. Then came three Venetian coins revalidated for use on Cyprus under Venice, two of which he had showed us previously: a gold coin with an X to revalue it to 10 bezants, and a silver 8 solidi piece with an X to revalue it to 10 solidi. In addition to an X to revalue it, Bob's new coin had four additional equally spaced countermarks near the edge to deter clipping.
 8. **Carl Wolf** showed a *dubil*, a Nigerian iron bar used as money from the 16th to 20th centuries. Locales and smelters produced specific shapes unique to only them, and each was called by its own name. Most were rough bars about one foot in length with no distinguishing marks.
 9. **Andy Plioplys** showed an example of the first Lithuanian coin from about 1350. Made out of silver bars, with a cross and spearhead on the obverse, only three of the 17 known pieces are in private hands. The reverse has a cyrillic legend. The smaller 2 dinar pieces are more common.
 10. **Don Dool** showed some copper coins with monograms, a new collecting area for him. Although some Danish and Russian pieces are known, most are from German states. Here are copper coins issued by

three of the seven sons of Ernst I the Pious of Saxe-Gotha.

- An A monogram on a 1681 Saxe-Coburg 1 heller of Albrecht III, Ernst's second son.
 - An E monogram on a 1712 Saxe-Hildburghausen 1 heller of Ernst IV, Ernst's sixth son.
 - A JE monogram on a 1724 1 heller Saxe-Saalfeld of Johann Ernst VIII, Ernst's seventh son.
-

2002 ANA Anniversary Convention Reports

Phil Carrigan reports:

New York City offers something beyond the customary ANA in whatever city these conventions are ordinarily held. This ANA seemed to be average or a bit less as to numismatic enrichment but very good as to what The Big Apple offered.

I believe the ANA official auction conducted by Superior didn't reach the magnitude or quality of the pre-ANA sale conducted by Heritage or Bowers. Because of the logistics of NYC with less bourse floor space, there were fewer dealers spread over the two floors in the Marriott rather than the usual one-floor city of dealers seen in a convention hall setting. The numismatic theater presentations and competitive exhibits were up to the standard for these conventions. One interesting case at the Stack's table held a group of fantastic US half dollars from the David Queller Collection. These coins will be auctioned in October and include a beautiful proof 1839 New Orleans half, a high grade 1892 micro O Barber half and several great Bust halves.

Along with coins, my wife Mary Clare and I had wonderful food. great sight-seeing and saw an enjoyable play ("The Producers").

Tom DeLorey reports:

The ANA convention was odd because it was on three floors. The public had go to the 7th floor to register, and from there could either go in to the exhibits on 7 (where they were on a balcony that wrapped around three sides of the main ballroom on 6), or go down one floor to the ballroom which was the main bourse room. The rest of the bourse was immediately below on several conjoined meeting rooms on 5.

For the first time since 1975 I did not attend the entire ANA convention, as the PNG show was on 5 and all of our stuff had to be moved up to 6 after the PNG show, which I could not help with. By the time I got there on Thursday the 1933 \$20 had already sold for \$7,590,000, which helped to generate

tremendous local publicity for the show. Everybody was talking about it, and it would have been great if it had been on display at the show. Partly because of it, a lot of non-collectors came out with coins to be appraised. Unfortunately, very few of them actually sold anything.

Real collector interest was good. We had people with want lists such as 1914-D cents and 1932-D quarters. Overall, it was probably the best retail volume we have done at an ANA for several years. Official registration was about 12,000 people, way down from the official record for a NY ANA show of 24,900 set in 1976, but they did spend money.

The food in the hotel was OK, but vastly overpriced. The coffee in the bourse room snack bar was horrible, but cheap. There may be a lesson there.

Bob Leonard reports:

Though attendance at the New York ANA convention was less than in previous years (below Atlanta, and less than 60% of Philadelphia in 2000), the bourse seemed to be crowded and humming while I was there. There was no big draw like the Ship of Gold or 1913 Liberty Head nickel this year, which may have depressed attendance. It was on two floors, which gave rise to many complaints; it always seemed that, no matter what floor you were on, the dealer you wanted to see was on the other floor.

The ANS table was always busy. Now that they have linked up with David Brown Book Co., they offered many numismatic books from other publishers, at discount prices. The ANS is in the process of revising their bylaws and constitution, in the hope that this will attract new donors. I have been working on this on the ANS Advisory Committee since December, and a meeting of the committee was held at the convention. We were also invited to a special meeting of the full ANS Council, at which the proposed changes were discussed. Despite initial sharp disagreements, it appears that a compromise was reached that is acceptable to all parties. This will be drafted and presented to ANS members this fall. The ANS also had a breakfast Friday morning. The move downtown is still delayed, due to poor coordination and the terrorist attack.

At the Ambassador Breakfast, Cliff Mishler spoke at length on the sale of Krause Publications. This appears to be very beneficial to the employees in the ESOP, who are cashing out at a good price and diversifying. However, Chet feels so badly about it that he skipped the convention (he has not had any ownership in Krause for about 10 years). Mishler was philosophical. He does not think it will have any impact at all on Krause's programs.

The Franklin Mint is another story. For decades they donated the top writing award to the Token and Medal Society, though it became cheaper and cheaper as the years went by. This year TAMS was suddenly stiffed; Cindy Grellman seemed to think that the Franklin Mint had gone out of business (they did not have a table this year, though in 2000 and 2001 they gave silver medals to every banquet attendee), but I'm not sure what happened. I was appointed Second Vice President of TAMS, and presented the Ben and Sylvia Odesser Award for Excellence in Judaic Numismatics at the TAMS banquet.

The NLG bash had its ups and downs, as usual. One of my jokes got a laugh, and I won the award for Best Article in a nonprofit numismatic publication.

Some of the exhibits were outstanding, but the area was small and rather poorly lighted.

I spoke at the Numismatic Theatre, which was poorly set up by the Marriott, on "New Discoveries in California Pioneer Fractional Gold." Not many attended, and I had difficulty with my slides. However, I gave essentially the same program the following day, to a different audience (except for one person), at the meeting of the Society of Private and Pioneer Numismatics, and it went much better. I attended another Numismatic Theatre program, "Somers' Island Hogge Money," which was outstanding.

Bob Hendershot celebrated his 104th birthday at the convention, with the whole convention invited. Of course, it was the same time as my second talk!

There was much discussion about the sale of the 1933 double eagle the day before the convention opened. I didn't attend the auction, but many did. Donald Partrick surmised that the mystery buyer is a Hollywood type or in construction, and he may know.

At the banquet, I accepted the ANA award for 90 years of membership on behalf of the Chicago Coin Club. Sitting next to me at an award recipients table was CCC member and past president Charles Ricard, who did likewise for the Rochester Coin Club.

Next year the convention will be in Baltimore, in a less-expensive area and with far better facilities. Those who attend club meetings but have not gone to ANA conventions should strongly consider it. An ANA convention is like a Chicago Coin Club Meeting, only orders of magnitude better. You can find out anything you want to know there, from the top experts in their specialties. And, you also get to buy books and coins!

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the
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Donald Dool - Second Vice President

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October, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 10

October 2002

Editor's Notes

Congratulations to club member Clarence Wills on his 50 years of membership in ANA, as announced at the recent convention in New York. On a sadder note, it has come to our attention that former member Larry Natta passed away July 4th. Larry was editor of the *Chatter* 1981-82 and will always be remembered for putting out the first typeset issues of the *Chatter*.

Finally, a reminder that the annual member auction will be during our November meeting. Although lots are accepted up to the start of the auction, you have less than three weeks to send in the list of any items to be auctioned to guarantee that your lots will be included in the November *Chatter*, which I will try to send out earlier than usual. For details, see the announcement later in this issue.

Paul Hybert, editor

Minutes of the 1005th Meeting

President Carl Wolf called the 1005th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order on September 11, 2002 at 7:00PM. The meeting was held at 1 Bank One Plaza.

A motion was made seconded and approved to accept the August meeting minutes as they appear in the *Chatter*.

Secretary/Treasurer Lyle Daly gave a treasury report as follows:

Dreyfus Money Market	\$1852.43
Bank One CD	1445.73
Bank One CD	1440.48
TCF Checking Account	1788.99
Un-deposited Funds	40.00
TOTAL	\$6,567.63

A motion was made seconded and approved to accept the treasurer's report. President Carl Wolf noted that it was the 1 year anniversary of the terrorist attack on the WTC and Pentagon. He asked the membership to stand for a moment of silence.

There were no guests present.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced Dr. James McCormick and his presentation of *Microscopic Images of Coins and Paper Money Produced by J. B. Dancer*. Dr. McCormick is a collector of vintage scientific equipment. He noted the common theme among all collectors in their desire to have precious things to show and a desire to discover and add information that others have overlooked. Dr McCormick shared an interesting perspective on the entertainment value of the slides, noting that the slides came to be valued for their esthetic appeal rather than their ability to impart scientific knowledge.

Robert Feiler thanked Dr. McCormick for his presentation and awarded the featured speakers medal & and the educational certificate to him.

Second Vice President Don Dool announced there were 11 show & tell presenters:

- ☐ Bob Weinstein - Counterfeit Roman Coins.
- ☐ Phil Carrigan - Vintage coin boards.
- ☐ Drew Micheyta - 1837 double denomination coin from the Russian occupation of Poland.
- ☐ Carl Wolf - Primitive money in the form of Shell rings.
- ☐ Mark Weiclaw - Two Roman coins from the reign of Caracalla, elongated coin badges from the New York ANA convention by the Elongated Cent Society.
- ☐ Steve Norton - three Conder Tokens from the late 1700's.
- ☐ Mike Metras - Paper money from the ILNA Auction

- Steve Huber - 1901 & 1902 British Trade Dollars and multiple taler denominated coins.
- Bob Feiler - numerous miniature cooking utensils made of 1 cent coins.
- Reid Geisler - A remarkable 1912-D V nickel from metal detecting, a French coin from 1711 and a polish coin dated 1529
- Sharon Blocker - a collection of star notes, and bimetallic coin, some purchased at ILNA
- Don Dool - A coin from 1831 Russian Warsaw and one from Breslaw coins of various German states.

Old Business:

The ANA 90 Year Membership Certificate, received at the New York convention of the ANA, was on display.

President Carl Wolf noted that members Sharon Blocker and Bruno Repka gave presentations at the ILNA convention on September 7th.

Lyle Daly advised the membership that letters were sent to members with membership dues in arrears. The names of those members who do not respond were Bierly, Doran, Grundy-Noble, Holmer, Kitchen, Raff, Schmidt, Simek, Walsh and Williams. Membership was asked if they were aware of any extenuating circumstances associated with these members. No unusual circumstance were noted, the recommendation is to drop their names from the membership roll in November if dues are not received.

Bob Feiler advised the membership of the cost for the Year End Banquet. A motion was made seconded and approved to hold the banquet at the Alpine Banquet House in Hillside.

New Business:

President Carl Wolf advised the membership that the items in the club's safe deposit box that were designated as duplicates and non related material were available for viewing. The Board recommended that this material be auctioned off at the November meeting. The Board further recommended the Auction Committee, which has not been formed, be empowered to determine what material will be included in the November 2002 auction and what should be held in reserve for future auctions. A motion was made seconded and approved to auction off the material as recommended by the Board.

President Carl Wolf advised the membership that the club's archives include bank statements that date back to the mid 1980's and old copies of the

Numismatist. The board recommended that bank statements 8 years or older could be destroyed and old copies of the *Numismatist* be distributed to any interested club member. A motion was made seconded and approved to destroy the records and give away copies of the *Numismatist* as recommended by the Board.

Carl Wolf advised membership that the Board recommended that a separate membership account be set up for life membership dues. Lyle Daly suggested the Dreyfus account be closed due to the difficulty in updating signatures and the low interest rate. The funds from that account could be used to establish the life membership account. A motion was made seconded and approved to create a life membership account and closing the Dreyfus account.

Carl Wolf advised the membership that in accordance with the by laws he has appointed a nominating committee chairman, Bill Burd to establish a committee to search for candidates for the 2003-2004 term. Steve Zitowsky and Mike Metras will also serve on the committee. In accordance with the by laws, Carl will also serve on the committee. The Board concurred with this.

Given the exodus of members all further business was tabled.

Member Mark Weiclaw alerted members of precious metal bars that simply give a weight. He encountered a silver bar that turned out to be silver plated.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Speaker's Worl/d

Microscopic Photographs of J.B. Dancer

Presented by Dr. James B. McCormick to our September 11, 2002 meeting.

We are not alone! The impulse to collect and study small items is by no means limited to numismatists. The study of an apparently obscure item often produces questions, and the search for answers to those questions can lead to other questions, or sometimes to an entirely new collecting area. Our speaker, Dr. McCormick, used one of his collecting areas to show some aspects of nineteenth century life.

J.B. Dancer of Manchester, England came from a family tradition of Sunday afternoon lecturers as entertainers; they provided enlightenment as entertainment. As an instrument manufacturer (among other skills), he made thermometers, scientific glassware, kaleidoscopes, microscopes, and primitive projectors. Dr. McCormick showed us pictures of primitive projectors in his collection - these pre electric age items used a flame as the light source. The weak flame from a gas light system kept the lecture setting intimate and the audience small and involved, while the strong lime light allowed for a larger audience. A collection of projectors quickly lead to a collection of slides, and the oldest slides shown to us had biological subjects. A small frog on one, and the nymph, caterpillar, and butterfly stages of development on another. These were not images on the slides, but the real things mounted on the slides.

The search was for interesting and beautiful items, to be classified and studied later; the main interest was in beauty, not in value. The intended audience was Britain's upper class.

The reduction of a picture onto a small object was popularized once the daguerreotype process for image making was used widely in the 1840s. But that process used no negatives, so multiple "prints" were not possible (think of modern day instant cameras; if you want three photos of something, you must take three pictures with your camera). In addition to using the daguerreotype process, Dancer used the collodion process after its 1851 invention; the fine grained negatives allowed production of multiple prints. In modern terms, his materials had an ASA rating of about 1.

Viewed with a magnifying glass or under a microscope, Dancer produced over 300 hundred items during his career, typically keeping production under

100 of each. After his death, his daughter issued another series. Others copied either his slides or techniques.

Dr. McCormick found a catalog of Dancer's slides after he had started his collection of Dancer slides; another major resource on Dancer is the Ransom Library at the University of Texas. The existence of items in the catalog, but not his collection, helps drive his collecting impulse. There are three serious collectors of Dancer's material in the world today, and their concern about their material's authenticity should be familiar to all numismatists. Dancer's signature appears in many of his images, and some of his pieces have unique characteristics; for instance, his copy of Raphael's Madonna and Child is reversed, while his competitors produced a correct version. For the 1862 International Exhibition in Paris, Dancer produced a slide with 85 portraits of the Kings and Queens of England since the conquest. The numismatic items on slides included notes from France, England, and Prussia. The actual image on the slide measures about one-eighth of an inch on each side, so an image of an engraving was an excellent way to show off the quality of Dancer's process and materials.

Just as the Gallery Mint today makes reproductions of early U.S. coins while remaining as true as possible to the original technology and processes, some people in the late twentieth century made microscopic photographs using Dancer's techniques and processes. Dr. McCormick concluded by showing images, made by DiDonato, of U.S. paper money, including some Educational notes.

Important Dates

- October 9 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Donald Tzvi Ariel on
The Invention and Dissemination of the Idea of Coinage
- November 13 CCC Meeting - Club Auction - no featured speaker
- December 11 CCC Meeting - Annual Banquet - Featured Speaker *to be announced*
-

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Bob Weinstein** showed counterfeit Roman coins struck over earlier Roman coins. They usually are found struck over large coins; the older coins had been larger but they were completely demonetized, while the more recent coins were smaller and were only devalued, so they still had some value.

One counterfeit from Spain has a reverse showing an emperor holding a Victory, and one from Britain has the same reverse (!), even though that reverse never was used in Britain. The emperor is found holding a globe on coins from Britain.

During a revolt by the eastern empire against Gratien, eastern mints did not make dies with Gratien - they used earlier emperors.

2. While visiting Columbus, Ohio during the Labor Day weekend, **Phil Carrigan** attended a coin show and bought some coin boards. The one Titled "Liberty Head Dime (Barber)" lists the 1894-S as having 204 issued; it also has a 1938 copyright by Joseph Oberwise. The reverse lists buying prices for filled-in boards. Phil also showed a Whitman 1938 "Morgan Quarter Dollar" board, and one for "Morgan Half Dollars."
3. **Drew Michyeta's** main collection is of silver crowns from around the world. He mentioned the three pieces which are hard to find nice as: Hong Kong of 1866-68, the Greek Colonial 5 drachm from Crete, and the one he showed - from 1837 Poland, a dual denominated 1 1/2 ruble 10 zloty coin. In beautiful condition, Drew's coin was struck with a new reverse die and an old reverse die.
4. **Carl Wolf** showed two similar pieces, but made thousands of miles and thousands of years apart - shells polished into ring shapes.
 - ☐ From the Solomon Islands, circa 1850. Commonly used as decoration, it also was used as a trade good although probably not as money.
 - ☐ From ancient Sumeria, circa 3500 - 3000 BC. These are found in hoards, but we do not know if they actually were used as money.
5. **Mark Wieclaw** started with some elongated coins issued at the recent ANA convention in New York, then finished with some ancients.
 - ☐ A TEC badge made on a New York quarter, showing the WTC

A TEC badge made on a New York quarter, showing the WTC twin towers and the ANA owl.

- ☐ As above, but enameled and on a gold plated New York quarter.
- ☐ An elongated cent featuring three firemen raising a U.S. flag.
- ☐ A Roman provincial bronze of Caracalla from Thrace, featuring a radiate crown on a young (12 or 13 years of age) ruler. The obverse shows a serpent rearing.
- ☐ A dupondius of Caracalla's cousin Elagabalus. A rare denomination for him.



6. **Steve Norton** showed three British provincial tokens (from Sussex, Portsmouth, and Edinburgh) commonly known as "Conder" tokens; they were produced to answer a coin shortage in the late 1700s.
7. **Mike Metras** showed paper money acquired at the auction held during the recent ILNA show.
 - ☐ An 1853 3 dollar note of the Cochituate Bank of Boston.
 - ☐ A cancelled 1862 10 cent note from the Watertown Bank and Loan Company. It is ragged, but it was bought for the train vignette.
 - ☐ An 1850 5 dollar Internal Improvement note issued by the state of Illinois.
 - ☐ An 1863 50 cent note of the Augusta Insurance and Banking Company. The back has parts of \$10 and \$20 notes of the same company.
8. **Steve Huber** started by showing 1901 and 1902 British Trade Dollars from the Bombay Mint. He concluded with multiple talers from Brunswick-Wolfenbuettel picturing Rudolph Augustus in equestrian designs. The 1 1/2 and 2 talers were beautiful and original, unlike many which had been re-engraved during the 17th and 18th centuries.
9. **Bob Feiler** brought in his lifetime accumulation of coins made into miniature kitchen utensils:
 - ☐ Teapot from an 1890 British penny.

- ☐ 1943 steel cents hammered into little pots and baskets.
- ☐ Lincoln cents made into little candle holders.
- ☐ Two Lincoln cents made into a canteen.
- ☐ A ladle and frying pan.

10. **Reid Geissler** showed a variety of coins.

- ☐ A 1912-D nickel found with a metal detector. Not much wear on the piece, but heavily mottled. One of our members asked if the mint mark was a D-over-S, but Reid could not tell.
- ☐ A piece brought in for our members' help in identification, which was obtained. It is a 1711 quarter ecu of Louis XIV.



- ☐ Another piece brought in for identification, but we could not add to the obvious 1529 Polish piece of Sigismund I.

11. **Sharon Blocker** brought items bought at the recent ILNA show.

- ☐ A crown with a train, from the Isle of Mann.
- ☐ A 1989 20 piatres from Egypt, picturing a train.
- ☐ A 2002 bimetallic coin from Croatia.
- ☐ A 1992 bimetallic (steel and aluminum) 10 dinars from Algeria.
- ☐ An enameled Solomon Islands coin, featuring the windsurfing mascot of the 2000 Olympics.
- ☐ U.S. star notes, and some production error notes (off-center and inking errors).

12. **Don Dool** showed more copper coins from his collection specialties, of conflicts and by date.

- ☐ A 3 grozny of Poland, from the failed 1831 revolution against Russia. Don noted that usually the word revolution is applied if it succeeds, otherwise it is called a rebellion.
- ☐ A uniface Breslau piece with dual dates and denominations; dated 1571 and 1572, and denominated as 4 pfennig and 1 heller.

Call for Club Auction Lots

November 13, 2002

The club auction is scheduled for 7PM, at the start of the regular November club meeting. In the past few years, club related material (and Chicago area numismatic items) have had the best results. Please consider using the club auction to dispose of the numismatic items you no longer need.

You can place a reserve on each lot, and there is no commission charged to either the buyer or seller. Auction lot viewing will be held before the meeting starts, and again briefly before the auction starts.

The November *Chatter* will contain a list of all auction lots that are known to us by Friday, October 25. You can either bring your lots with you to the November meeting, or you can ship them to Bill Burd by Friday, October 25. If you will bring your lots to the meeting, please send your list to Paul Hybert by Friday, October 25.

Bill Burd
CCC-A Dept.
Chicago Coin Company
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638
chicagocoin@worldnet.att.net

Paul Hybert
ECE Dept.
3301 S. Dearborn
Chicago, IL 60616
prhybert@worldnet.att.net

If you have questions, Bill can be reached at 773-586-7666.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

President Carl Wolf called the Chicago Coin Club Board Meeting to order on September 3, 2002. The meeting was held at Connie's Pizza. Those present were Carl Wolf, Don Dool, Jeff Rosinia, William Burd, Phil Carrigan and Lyle Daly.

The items in the club's safe deposit box that were designated as duplicates and non related material were reviewed by all present. The Board recommended that this material be auctioned off and displayed at the September meeting. The Board further recommended the Auction Committee, which has not been formed, be empowered to determine what material will be included in the November 2002 auction and what should be held in reserve for future auctions.

Phil Carrigan stated that the club's archives include bank statements that date back to the mid 1980's and old copies of the *Numismatist*. The board recommended that bank statements 8 years or older could be destroyed and old copies of the *Numismatist* be distributed to any interested club member.

Carl Wolf recommended that a separate membership account be set up for life membership dues. Lyle Daly suggested the Dreyfus account be closed due to the difficulty in updating signatures and the low interest rate. The funds from that account could be used to establish the life membership account. The board agreed and recommended a life membership account and closing the Dreyfus account.

Lyle Daly advised the Board that letters went out to all members with delinquent dues. The names of those members who do not respond will be reviewed with membership to determine if any extenuating circumstances are associated with these members. If no unusual circumstance is noted, the recommendation is to drop their names from the membership roll in November.

Don Dool advised the Board that liberal grading for show and tell has resulted in the majority of exhibitors receiving Honorable Mention (HM) for the Cabeen Award. He recommended the current rule that HM be given to all exhibitors within 20% of the first place score be revised to 10%. Don also recommended that the grading sheet be revised to include grading criteria. The Board agreed and will recommend these revisions to the membership.

Carl Wolf advised that he is working on a 3 tier email distribution list that members could sign up for. Roughly stated, one tier would receive all email, another would be for club issues only and a third would be for essential communications. The Board recommended this should be proposed to membership.

Carl Wolf advised the Board that in accordance with the by laws he has appointed a nominating committee chairman, Bill Burd to establish a committee to search for candidates for the 2003-2004 term. In accordance with the by laws, Carl will serve on the committee along with 2 additional members. Carl also noted that Paul Hybert wishes to continue as manager of the club's web site but would like to step back from the position of Editor of the *Chatter*.

Carl Wolf proposed the club host a benefit for the ANA Money Museum. This could be done at a future show. Carl proposed a reception with wine and appetizers for \$100 per person. The Board recommended this be discussed with membership.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Birthday and Year Joined

November	2	Alexander Basok	1998
November	5	Scott E. Douglas	1996
November	5	Phyllis Johnson	1987
November	5	John Kasper	1995
November	8	Brian A. Heil	1981
November	9	Tom Ryan	1960
November	11	J. Vincent Swift	1991
November	13	Michael B. Doran	1999
November	19	Richard Peterson	1962
November	24	Jeffrey F. Bernberg	1975
November	27	Robert Feiler	1994

Our 1006th Meeting

Date: October 9, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

*Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and **everyone** must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*

Featured speaker: Donald Tzvi Ariel - *The Invention and Dissemination of the Idea of Coinage*

Mr. Ariel is head of the coin department of the Israel Antiquities Authority in Jerusalem and will be in Chicago to dismantle the special exhibit on the Byzantine gold hoard at the Field Museum of Natural History. (And no, he will not bring all 750 coins for show and tell.)

Chicago Coin Club Annual Banquet

All of the arrangements have been finalized for the Chicago Coin Club Annual Banquet on Wednesday, December 11th. A \$200 deposit check was hand delivered to the restaurant on September 25.

The annual Banquet will be held at the Alpine Banquet Haus located at 11141 West Roosevelt Road (at Wolf Road), Westchester, IL 60154. Phone 708-409-8640.

We will have the Alpine Banquet Haus from 6:00 PM until 10:30 or later at our discretion. The cost is \$20.00 per person and members are encouraged to bring family, friends and neighbors. Checks should be made out to the Chicago Coin Club, and may be given to Lyle Daly or mailed to the club's mail box, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

The location is very easy to get to and there is ample FREE parking only a few feet from their front door. There will be an open cash bar with a knowledgeable bartender.

The dinner meal will be served family style and consists of:

- ☐ Rolls and butter
- ☐ Soup
- ☐ Salad
- ☐ Mixed Vegetables
- ☐ Mostaccioli
- ☐ Mashed Potatoes
- ☐ Wienerschnitzel
- ☐ Roast Pork
- ☐ Chicken Vesuvio
- ☐ Apple Strudel

The owner and chef is European trained and has worked for Hotel Nikko, Ritz Carlton, the Whitehall, Mayfair Regent International and Chez Paul. The banquets many of us have attended there in the past have always been very professionally done and the cuisine is excellent.

submitted by Bob Feiler

Chicago

Coin

Club

Chatter



November, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 11

November 2002

Minutes of the 1006th Meeting

- ☐ Call to Order 7:10 PM
- ☐ Approval of September Minutes- Moved, seconded, carried
- ☐ Treasurer's Report - Skipped
- ☐ Intro of Guests - Dan Catlin and Donald Ariel
- ☐ Feiler introduced the speaker, Donald Ariel, and presented the ANA Certificate and the Speaker's Medal
- ☐ President Wolf noted that David Jen, Author, who spoke at the Primitive Money Society Meeting in March, passed away in September 2002.

Old Business -

- ☐ Past due members - Letters sent
- ☐ Annual Banquet - Menu is in the *Chctter*, suggestion that a map be included also.

New Business -

- ☐ Phil Carrigan spoke of the Remy Bourne Auction.
- ☐ Recommendation that written policy regarding the Cabeen Award be changed. 1. As printed - passed, 2. Dash vs. blank - passed.
- ☐ Breaking e-mail distribution of club outgoing email into 3 groups 1. Basic, 2. + Inquiries, 3. + Software offers. General consensus.
- ☐ Exhibits
 1. Steve Huber - French catalogue, souvenir of 100 years of company + 4 medals from Vaughan's seed co.
 2. Drew Michita - Slabbed Pagoda coin
 3. Sharon Blocker - 6 Notgeld Notes + 3 coins
 4. Carl Wolf - Framed ivory gambling chips
 5. Mark Wieclaw - 5 coins - 3 roman, 2 standing Liberty quarters
 6. Bob Feiler - currency of semi-clad females

7. Don Dool - 3 German coins

- ☐ Mike Metras mentioned Elgin CC show last weekend of the month
- ☐ Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Steven Zitowsky

Speaker's Worl/d

The Invention and Dissemination of the Idea of Coinage

Presented by Donald Tzvi Ariel, head of the Coin Department of the Israel Antiquities Authority, to our October 9, 2002 meeting.

Coins are very regional in nature and when I was trying to decide on what to speak about tonight I picked something that I hope will be more stimulating on a theoretical level. I'll be speaking on the invention and dissemination of the idea of coinage. I'll be bringing examples from the region I'm familiar with that is the southern Levant (countries bordering on the eastern Mediterranean) but clearly these issues relate to a lot of numismatic research therefore I'm sure it has ramifications for the kinds of work most of you do. Although if you're working in modern coinage it may be less relevant.

Coins are among the most important historic documents that remain from ancient classical times. The first coins were struck in Lydia in western Anatolia, at the end of the seventh century BCE. But I do not intend to speak of the date and place of the first coins, but rather what were the functions behind their invention, and how, when and why did this important innovation spread. In fact, we do not know as much as we would like about the process by which the idea of striking coins came about, by whom and when. It would also be helpful to know more about how, why and when the use of coinage spread through the ancient world.

Coins are metal discs (1) usually struck (2) bearing a symbol(s) (3) and used as a means of exchange (4). The first coins were made of gold, silver or electrum (a more-or-less naturally appearing alloy of gold and silver), and were introduced at the end of the seventh and the beginning the sixth century BCE in western Anatolia.

1. Metal discs: other media (shells, beads, ingots) are often referred to as proto-money or primitive money.

2. Usually struck: Hebrew root means strike/impress. A rarely used alternative is to "cast" coins.
3. Bearing symbols: The first coins bore symbols on only one side. The other side showed the impression left by the device which held the flan in place. Later that impression was stylized when technologically it was learned how to strike without any device. Ultimately symbols are placed on both sides of the coin.
4. Used as a means of exchange: of recognized weight and purity.

For an understanding of the processes which brought about the invention of coinage it is important to view coins from many points of view: much more than the two sides (obverse and reverse) that they appear to have. These are:

- ☐ the point of view of the minting authority (king, ruler, emperor, dynast, league)
- ☐ the point of view of the nation/ethnic grouping
- ☐ the point of view of the upper end users (wealthy)
- ☐ the point of view of the lower end user (common people)

In the course of this presentation we will touch upon most of these points of view. For the purpose of understanding the invention of coinage we must focus upon the the point of view of the ruler. Two of the principal benefits a nation derives from its own system of coinage are to signal the establishment of sovereignty and to control an economy. Since its invention, circulating coinage, sanctioned and manufactured by a sovereign, has been the ultimate document projecting sovereignty and defining an independent nation. While the idea behind and daily use of coins was to provide for a number of economic functions, they also had communication and propaganda values which, it has been claimed, are often overlooked. The importance of propaganda, for example, cannot be underestimated, especially in a world in which the coins themselves were perhaps the most advanced form of mass communications. Nevertheless, we do not know at what point after the invention of the idea of coinage, their propaganda value was discovered. I'm going to claim here that though we understand in the Roman period that coins had propaganda value, that in the earliest periods people didn't understand what could be done for disseminating knowledge on coins and there were other ideas behind the original use and invention of coins.

Numismatics developed as a entity separate from archaeology originally because it was one of the first of the antiquarian specializations in the Renaissance, well before archaeology came into its own. For that reason, from its beginnings, numismatics has had a strong art-historical component. Ironically, the realization of coins' obviously economic underpinning actually

came well after the field developed. I would roughly date the study of the economics of numismatics to the nineteenth century. It is that focus which interests us here today. The art-historical numismatists focused on the messages on the coins, their so-called propaganda value. While this aspect of coins always existed, in fact it only fully came to the fore in the Roman period.

Before there were coins people conducted economic transactions using barter systems. The main commodities traded were agricultural products, metals, and manufactured goods. First would be the negotiation between the two parties. When the terms of the transaction was agreed upon, the two parties would have to measure out or weigh the commodities being exchanged. This measuring procedure would be the same, regardless if the commodity weighed were figs or flour or gold.

These commodities were weighed on free-balance scales, a cumbersome procedure to say the least. A technological innovation in the weighing procedure was accomplished a few centuries earlier than the invention of coinage, with the use of scale weights of recognizable shape, implying a certain weight or at least weight standard, and yet later with the addition of markings indicating the actual weight. They relate very closely to the invention of coins. Just as the valuable metals from which coins would later be struck were of course commodities themselves before the idea of coining was invented, so too the denominations which later became those of coins were originally weight standards for weighing upon the scale.

There were of course objects which could be described as primitive money, or pre-money, which run the gamut from pre-weighed but unmarked lumps, to punched and striated pieces. Perhaps not all, but most had to be weighed on a scale. Examples are specially cast ingots of valuable metals. Sometimes you have to take the money and weigh it to see what it's worth in the premonetary period. We believe that their use was less common, even though they exist in the archaeological record. It is logical that the more mundane premonetary transactions did not employ such sophistications. In pre-monetary economies people bartered, they negotiated, they agreed on a price and then they weighed out one commodity against another.

Before coinage, the weighing of bullion, silver for example, took place by cutting off fragments of partially melted broken jewelry or debris from silversmithing. Another view is that standard silver jewelry items themselves were of standard weights.

We find archaeological evidence of silver lumps melted together found from

Anatolia to Egypt, and there are a good number of examples from the southern Levant. Pot hoards in which silver jewellery has been melted together into one large lump could be interpreted as raw materials for a silversmith, but may also be the materials of large barter transactions. For conducting a smaller purchase, all one had to do was to break off a piece of this hoarded material, and weigh it on a scale against a standard scale weight.

Since the time of Aristotle it has been assumed, and most people believe so to this day, that the logic of coinage was to facilitate the exchange process.

Coins had symbols struck into them, and as long as the symbols were clear the weight and composition of the coins were considered to be known.

According to this assumption, with the appearance of coins, overnight scale-weights should have become obsolete. For the first numismatists, who were art-historians, this assumption was satisfactory. Today it is not. Today we have to assume that together with the invention of coinage people were continuing to conduct many of their transactions in the barter technique.

Today people still use barter and we have to understand that in tandem with the monetary economy there was/is barter.

The assumption of the facilitation of the exchange process may be broken down into two differing categories, akin to the difference between macro- and micro-economics. On the macro scale this implies that minting coins was meant to assist in transactions between nation-states. Of course we know of many, many transactions in the earliest periods of coinage in which very large quantities of coins were transferred between nation-states, for tribute and for other reasons. These transactions were described in ancient sources often in denominations of talents, but the actual transaction was made with sacks of raw silver or coins. When these coins arrived at their destination they were often melted down so that the bullion could be used for the minting of local currency. That being the case it does not appear that the inter-national exchange process was the original logical focus for the invention of coinage. Why would one expend energy to strike coins (no matter how inexpensive manpower was in those days), in order to weigh coins in sacks, and send those sacks abroad, where they were likely to be melted down? It doesn't make sense.

For the theory that coins were first introduced in order to resolve complexities of inter-regional (or international) exchange one would expect to find very large denominations, and not the 15 gram average coin weight known from those times. We must therefore search beyond the macro-economic explanation for the invention of the first coins.

In order to understand the micro-economic logic for the invention of coins, let

us consider the point of view of the ruler of a region or city-state. Did he have an interest in facilitating the process of exchanging goods in his city's marketplace? This may perhaps be the case as relates to upscale purchases, ones that entail the exchange of one or a number of 15 gram silver coins. The merchants dealing on that level of commerce, called wholesalers, would have been important to a regional ruler and he would have wanted to assist them. At the same time, that regional ruler would likely not have cared less about simplifying the process by which one would buy fruits and vegetables in the marketplace.

We therefore believe that there is more to the invention of coinage than the facilitation of mid-level exchange. We believe that the explanation for the introduction of coins in early sixth century economies of western Anatolia has to do with the king's own profit motive:

Some enterprising potentate in Anatolia realized that he could mint coins with his symbol on them that was a fraction lighter than the guaranteed weight. The extra silver/electrum/gold that ruler would make from the transaction by underweighing the coin would more than cover the labor costs of minting the coins.

After minting these slightly lighter coins, the potentate could then obligate his subject to pay taxes to him with these coins, as opposed to taxes in kind (the barter system). In order for the ruler's subjects to accomplish this, they would have to go to the potentate or his representatives, and exchange pure specie at full weight for the slightly lighter coins. And in this way the ruler makes a profit on his first transactions. This is now an idea of how it came about that a ruler would want to mint coins in the very earliest period.

The first factor in the dynast's mind therefore regards his revenue, in the form of taxes. A second consideration for the ruler in the minting of local currency relates to his expenditures. One of the largest expenditures for a ruler was his military activity, from the labor for construction of fortifications, timber for war-galleys, to the support of of a standing army, meaning mercenaries. War in the ancient world was almost continuous. The minting of 15 gram silver denominations was a appropriate size for disbursing monthly payments to mercenaries, who were generally not poorly paid. Payment in slightly lighter coin as opposed to weighed silver weighed on a scale would also constitute a savings for the ruler.

Let us add a legend to the story of the first appearance of coins. You may be familiar of the story of the "Midas touch" - the king who has his wish fulfilled that whatever he touched would turn into gold. This legend is set in the sixth

century in western Anatolia. While it is only a legend, it is interesting that there is a commonality of elements with the first introduction of coins in the world, especially a certain king named Croesus (560-546 BCE) to whom the development of the first coins is attributed. A potentate in western Anatolia was preoccupied with gold, and came up with a way of making money from it.

Who minted coins?

We already said that coins were minted by local authorities. Like most generalizations this one too has its exceptions. Still for the most part, coins were minted for the leading political frameworks. In the sixth century this was the city-state, and alliances, leagues between city-states. Later dynasties, monarchies, etc. were minting authorities as well.

The idea of minting coins took some time to become common. We believe it did become common precisely because the trading classes found in it a convenient way of conducting their business. So I'm claiming the original incentive might have been the rulers to make some profit from the use of coins, but the people who got the ball rolling in a real way were the upper classes and merchants. The king would not have cared too much that coins were convenient, he wanted to get his "piece of the action", but the merchants saw the convenience and encouraged the king to continue making coins. The idea of minting coins first spread from western Anatolia to the Greek peninsula and islands. Within one century silver became the standard for valuable specie coins for the ancient world - besides the earliest issues, in those periods minting in gold and especially in electrum was very rare. The weight of the coins were based on the age-old weighing standards used with scale-weighing: the drachm, stater, daric, denar, and sheqel.

So the invention of coinage resulted from a marriage of economic interests, primarily that of the minting authority, and secondarily, but not less significantly the coins' usefulness for the upscale trading community.

As I have indicated, scholars have not always held these views of the development and propagation of coinage. A great deal of the study of subject has been colored by texts in the Bible. There, Abraham purchased the Machpela cave in Hebron as a burial place for his wife, from an Ephron the Hittite, for the sum of 400 silver sheqels. In many other places in the Bible we hear of taxes, payments and other transactions. The first Bible scholars thought these transactions implied the use of coins. Later, after it became clear that coins were not invented in the time of Abraham scholars restricted themselves to identifying ancient coins in words in those books of the Bible

that date to after 600 BCE. I am referring to the books of Ezra and Nehemia. We now know that all of the books of the Bible were redacted or edited after the destruction of the first Temple in 586 BCE, and consequently after the inventions of coinage. In Ezra & Nehemia we find the words *'drkwn* and *drkmwn*. These words certainly relate to the word *drachm*. Bible scholars believed that because there were coins called drachmas by that time, that here we have mention of them. In fact, while it is true that there were coins in existence by this time, they most likely had not made their way to Judea. And if they had, it is not sure that in such a backward place as Judea was at that time, people would have recognized the functionality of the object as a coin. So there are no references to coins in the Bible. The opposite is true: the many reference to weighing silver in the Bible shows us how very common it was in antiquity to breakout the scales, and do one's transaction by weighing. The Bible interdicts against scales that have been tampered with, as well as criminally inaccurate scale weights. This was important in the Bible because all purchases were conducted by weighing: weighing one commodity against another, or weighing a commodity against silver.

The idea of minting coins did not spread as quickly to the east. While the idea came into being around the Neo-Babylonian period (in the terminology of the southern Levant), the idea did not spread there until much later. The Persians could have adopted the innovation of coinage, but essentially did not, until late in their rule. The one coin series with Persian types is today thought to be the local currency of a more enlightened Lydian satrap, and was minted in Sardis. If alternatively it was a royal coinage of King Darius, it was only meant for commerce with the newly monied west.

Why did the idea of coining not spread easily to the east? While the Persian empire was very powerful, and well-organized, it was still organized on a very traditional framework, which was interested neither in innovation, nor in developments like improving commerce. The Persians maintained a benign administration over the southern Levant. For them the whole area belonged in a satrapy called "eber nahara" - beyond the river (not the Jordan but the Euphrates River). In fact, this "eber nahara" was subdivided into districts. Some of the known ones were: Cilicia (northwest Syria), Phoenicia, Samaria, Judea, Philistia, South Arabia, and Egypt.

On a more mundane level, the Persian world was based on an even lower level of agrarian economy. Payment of taxes was "in kind" (paid with produce from the fields). The local satrap would not succeed were he to insist that his backward people pay their taxes in coin.

The first research on the subject of the dissemination of the idea of coinage in

the Levant considered stray-finds of coins in order to establish the acceptance of coins as money. Coins are found in the Levant, where I come from, but the quantities are low enough that we can suspect they were not in fact viewed as coins when they arrived in the region. These early coin finds should be viewed as curios or heirlooms (objects collected/preserved for sentimental value at a much later date than when they were originally used). Some of those coins have crude incision marks, indicating the coins were examined for their purity. This suggests a culture in which coins were not yet accepted as such.

The few coins appearing in the region from this time are from the Greek peninsula and islands: Kos, Aegae, Lycia, Thasos and especially the Athenian tetradrachm, which became by far the most important coin later in the Persian period. All of these coins date to the fifth century BCE.

The dates of the earliest coin hoards in a region can also provide a date for the acceptance of a coined money economy. For the Levant at least, the earliest coin hoards date from the 5th century B.C.E. and they come together with the hacksilber, silversmithing debris. Those earliest coin hoards can provide a date for the acceptance of a coin money economy in the Levant. Alongside the coins there appear broken pieces of silver ("hacksilber"), indicating the people didn't have a clear sense of what a coin was for and how it could be used. These hoards are evidence of the time when, while coins were accepted for what they were, their value as silver was equally obvious. The person who hoarded those coins could use the coin as a coin, or as a piece of silver, depending on his needs. This phenomenon continued to a much lesser extent for many centuries.

Moreover, the range of variation of weights of the earliest coins was great, up to 25%. Therefore, it seems that in the first period of the local coinages, in spite of the symbols struck on the coins many coins were themselves still placed on scales, in the course of transactions, in order to verify the weight. People still did not quite get what the usefulness of coins were if they had to weight them anyway.

However, it would appear that the above ways only determine the date by which coins were accepted in the macro-economy of a region. The first coinages noted above were silver coinages, and the earliest hoards noted above were silver hoards. Silver coins were more relevant for use in large transactions within a region and between regions. What about the microeconomics of small cities, or even the village marketplace? One would presume that the further one goes from trading centers, the traditional methods of barter would remain as the predominant means of exchange, and

the acceptance of coined money would be slower.

It appears that the above ways only determined the date that coins were accepted in the macro-economy of a region. We can also establish the date for the acceptance of coins by the local minting of coins. While we have in the Levant imported coins from the west, the moment we find a local mint making coins we must assume that by then they understood what coins were for. While in 600 BCE we have coins in the west, in the east the first coins minted were made somewhere around 450 BCE. That's a 150 year difference. This process continued through to the end of the Persian period to the time of Alexander the Great.

For the micro-economy of the ancient classical world, another phenomenon can establish the date by which coins were accepted. This phenomenon is the introduction of coins of bronze. The components of bronze, copper with tin (added to provide hardness), are - relative to gold and silver - quite inexpensive. Bronze is a composite material. Therefore it would be difficult for it to serve as a denominational standard. How could anyone be sure of the value of the material, if the two components could be found in very different proportions? Bronze coins had some denominational relationship with regard to silver coins, but as should be expected, it was likely that the relationship had to do with the market forces in the marketplace, and with the amount of wear and tear the coin underwent.

It may be that bronze came to be minted in order to replace the inconvenient, very minute silver coins of the southern Levant. Or it may be - from the point of view of the minting authority - that bronze coins were minted in order to provide change for fractional tax payments, or to simplify fractional expenditures. But there is no doubt that they almost immediately provided a function in the marketplace, and facilitated small purchases. With the development of bronze coins we have finally and unequivocally reached the stage in which coinage was used to universally facilitate the exchange process. This is called a fiduciary coinage: the bronze coins only have value by virtue of their linkage to truly valuable bullion, silver or gold.

The development of bronze coinage occurs at the end of the fifth century BCE in the west, and in the fourth century BCE in the east. This is two centuries after the invention of the idea of coinage. In the regions noted above (Cilicia, Phoenicia, Philistia, Samaria, Judea and Egypt), only two cities, both in Phoenicia (Sidon and Tyre), minted bronze coins before the appearance of Alexander the Great. This would suggest that popular, universal acceptance of coinage for daily transactions began first in the most developed of municipal centers.

The dissemination of these bronze coins from Sidon and Tyre can be traced. They appear along the coastline. Obviously more are known from northern sites than from southern sites. Less are known from inland. It is only with the appearance of Alexander the Great that we can be sure that the acceptance of coinage for other than large transactions was complete in the Levant. His bronzes and bronzes of the early Ptolemaic and Seleucid kings are much more prevalent than the pre-Alexandrine bronzes. In the third but especially in the second century BCE many cities also minted bronze coins for their local needs.

However, we must bear in mind that traditional methods of barter and payment in kind prevailed for many centuries and never disappeared completely. The literary evidence, even in the Zenon papyri, is equivocal. Today there is a difference between the words "coins" and "money". In antiquity, the same was the case. But the word for "money" was the same as the word for "silver". Many times we cannot know whether payments were made in coin or by weighing on a scale.

To Summarize: The reason for the invention of coinage may be more complex than originally thought, being dependent on the rationales of both the minting authorities and other classes in the ancient world. Later, the acceptance of the idea of coinage spread, for a number of reasons. These latter reasons were in all likelihood quite different than those reasons for their invention. So while the first coins were minted around 600 BCE, their acceptance was slow and irregular. In the regions of Phoenicia and Philistia, and their economic backwaters (Galilee, Samaria and Judea), there was a creeping acceptance of the use of coins until the end of the fourth century BCE, even whilst the traditional barter systems did not disappear.

We can use the appearance of local mints to establish the acceptance of the idea of coinage. And we can use the bronze issues to prove the acceptance in the retail market of the use of coinage in its earliest periods.

Annual Member Auction

Here are the lots known to us by October 30, 2002. The gaps in the lot numbering are intentional; they simplify our book keeping. The auction will be held near the start of the meeting, after a short time for lot examination; consignments are accepted until the auction starts.

Material Donated to Club:

1. "My First Billion" full color poster framed and ready for hanging. Shows giant stacks of 100-dollar bills. Poster is 11" x 35", overall 16" x 40".
2. CCC "Science of Numismatics" full color poster framed and ready for hanging. Poster produced by Harlan J. Berk to commemorate the March 27, 1996 symposium jointly sponsored by CCC and the American Numismatic Society. Poster is 16.6" x 11", overall 21" x 15".

Duplicates from the Club's archives:

10. 1952 - Chicago Coin Club (CCC) - 400th Meeting counterstamped 1944 Mexican peso (silver)
11. 1959 - (CCC) - Fall Festival token (brass)
12. 1969 - (CCC) - 50th Anniversary Medal in original box (bronze)
13. 1969 - (CCC) - 50th Anniversary Medal (bronze)
14. 1969 - (CCC) - 600th Meeting Medal (brass)
15. 1969 - (CCC) - 600th Meeting Medal (brass)
16. 1969 - (CCC) - 600th Meeting Medal (brass)
17. 1981 - (CCC) - 750th Meeting counterstamped 1919 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
18. 1981 - (CCC) - 750th Meeting counterstamped 1919 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
19. 1981 - (CCC) - 750th Meeting counterstamped 1919 Walking Liberty Half Dollar
20. 1981 - (CCC) - 750th Meeting counterstamped 1981 Kennedy Half Dollar
21. 1981 - (CCC) - Strike on 1-1/8" square aluminum showing die from 750th Meeting counterstamp was cancelled
22. 1985 - (CCC) - 800th Meeting Medal (Bronze)
23. 1985 - (CCC) - 800th Meeting Medal (Silver Plate)
24. 1985 - (CCC) - 800th Meeting Medal - Sterling Silver
25. 1941 - Chicago Numismatic Roundtable (CNR) - Jenny Lind medal

w/name of charter members on reverse side (bronze)

26. 1949 - (CNR) - 15th Anniversary wooden money (15¢) 2" x 3 1/2", serial no. 066, and signed by the six members.
27. 1949 - (CNR) - 15th Anniversary wooden money (15¢) 2" x 3 1/2", serial no. 066, and signed by the six members.
28. 1949 - (CNR) - 15th Anniversary wooden money (25¢) 4" x 4"
29. 1954 - (CNR) - 20th Anniversary encased stamp (3¢)
30. 1954 - (CNR) - 20th Anniversary encased stamp (3¢)
31. 1954 - (CNR) - 20th Anniversary encased stamp (8¢)
32. 1954 - (CNR) - 20th Anniversary encased stamp (8¢)
33. 1954 - (CNR) - 20th Anniversary encased stamp (8¢)
34. Undated encased postage stamps: C. Sam Carlson (collector of) Jenny Lind & Swedish Coins
35. Undated encased postage stamps: R.H. Roshom (1¢) Coins/ANA 3193/Medals
36. Undated encased postage stamps: 3 varieties from R.H. Roshom: stamp and copy is same - (1¢) Coins/ANA 3193/Medals; backs are different - aluminum, copper and brass
37. Undated encased postage stamps: R.H. Roshom (2 1/2¢) collector of odd & curious media of exchange
38. Undated encased postage stamps: R.H. Roshom (1 1/4¢) collector of odd & curious media of exchange
39. 1936 - Chicago Philatelic Society Golden Jubilee Medallion Banquet Ticket (2 1/4" x 1-3/8") bronze
40. 1980 - Central States Numismatic Association name badge and medal from Lincoln Nebraska convention. Donated by Harry X Boosel
41. 1968 - Chicago Policeman's Benevolent Association, 100th Anniversary Commemorative medal, 2" silver plated bronze. Main design dedicated to the police monument at Haymarket Square, accompanied by brochure and Coin World article. Notation donated by Harry Schwimmer, Club member and owner of Barney's Market Club Restaurant, who was member of the association committee.
42. 1963 - Wooden Nickel from Chicago Coin Bourse, Central Plaza Hotel
43. 1977 - Inauguration medal of Chicago Mayor Michael A. Bilandic, 1 1/2" bronze, in hard plastic container
44. 1973 - Paul Casals medal, 2" high-relief, bronze
45. 1981 - Souvenir token of Chicago Transit Authority - under laminate and mounted to a printed card
46. 1987 - Rolled out Lincoln wheat cent "My Lucky Penny" and engraved "Dick Olsen 1987" comes with a printed card with slots to hold the elongated coin
47. ND - 3 miscellaneous tokens: Michigan State Numismatic Society elongated cent from 1988 spring convention; Antique Car token

(aluminum); Ralph Greenleaf - Master of the Pool Cue (plastic).

Material consigned by members.

101. Three pamphlets published by B. Max Mehl: *The Star Coin Book*, 48th Edition (1945?), 111-pages and *The Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia*, 54th Edition (1951), 208 pages, and *The Commemorative Coins of the U.S.* 1937, 60 pages.
102. *World's Greatest Collection of U.S. Silver Coins* auction catalogs by Numismatic Gallery, Part I, Part III and Part IV-V in three volumes. Auctions took place January - May 1945. Part I includes a carbon copy of letter listing the hammer price on selected lots. Attached is typed note addressed to Cliff Hewitt, Hewitt Brothers Printing and Publisher of Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, "Dear Cliff: Thought you would like to have this information for the next Scrap Book. Regards, AK." Both the letter and the note are hand signed "Abe," for Abe Kosoff.
103. Small pocket edition printed in 1934 of *Arrangement of U.S. Copper Cents, 1816-1857*, by Frank D. Andrews, 1883, 38 pages.
104. Two issues of *Numismatic Gallery Monthly*, from November 1948 (8 pages) and April 1949 (16 pages), listing current pricing for U.S. and International coins.
105. *Proof Coins Struck by the U.S. Mint, 1817-1921*, by Walter H. Breen as published in two *Coin Collector's Journals*, 1953, 48 pages and *The Coin Collector Journal*, May 1937, 48 pages, both Published by Wayte Raymond.
106. Three issues of *Standard Premium List of Rare U.S. and Early American Coins*, 1933, '36, and '37; plus two issues of *Standard Price List of U.S. Coins*, 1937 and '40. Both journals published by Wayte Raymond and distributed by Scott Stamp and Coin.
107. Seven volumes of *Standard Catalog of Canadian Coins, Tokens and Paper Money*, by J.E. Charlton, 1960, '61, '63, '64, '66, '68 and '69. Published by Whitman Publishing, Racine, WI.
108. *Historic Gold Coins of the World*, by Burton Hobson, 1971, 192 pages. Hardcover book (11" x 9") with jacket, showing color photographs in nearly every page.
109. *Catalogo De Los Reales De A Ocho Espanoles*, by Jose De Yriarte Oliva and Leopoldo Lopez-Chaves Sanchez, published in 1965 in Madrid Spain. Hardcover book (11" x 9") with jacket showing 1600 pieces of eight issued in Spain and America. Written in Spanish and English.
110. *Roman Silver Coins, Vol. I Republic-Augustus*, by H.A. Seaby, 1967, second edition, 166 pages, hardcover with jacket 5.5" x 8.75".
111. *Ancient Greek and Roman Coins*, by G.F. Hill, 1964, 302 pages, this

is a reprint by Argonaut of the original book published in 1899.

112. Five auction catalogs from Numismatica Ars Classica AG, Zurich, Switzerland: Three 2002 cat alogs Volume 1 is auction of Greek, Roman and Byzantine coins with 32 color plates; volume 2 is auction of some ancient and medieval, but has many Spanish coins, 8 color plates; volume 3 is auction of Greek, Roman and Byzantine coins with 54 black and white plates. Two catalogs from 2000: first is 18th & 19th century Spanish coins and the second catalog has wide selection of international coinage with many from the medieval period, many color plates on both.
 113. Six "Buy or Bid Sales" by Harlan J. Berk, Ltd.
 114. Stack's auction catalogs: two from December 2001 and nine catalogs from 2002, including the volume dedicated to the sale of the 1933 Double Eagle.
 115. Ideal Indexed Coupon Book (2-3/4" x 5-1/4") from World War I era, date on front shows _____ 191____, originally had \$10.00 in coupons, only .50 remaining in three and one cent coupons. Made by the Chicago Coupon Company.

 151. Balmuth, M S ed, *Hacksilber to Coinage: New Insights into the Monetary History of the Near East and Greece* (Numismatic Studies No. 24), American Numismatic Society 2001 (Hb, new, in shrink-wrap). **MB \$35.**
 152. Troxell, H A, *Studies in the Macedonian Coinage of Alexander the Great* (Numismatic Studies No. 21), American Numismatic Society 1997 (Hb, new, in shrink-wrap). **MB \$60.**
 153. Green's Bargain List No 45; R Green Chicago 1950s (CaC 50pp) **MB \$2.00**
 154. --another-- No 50; Nov 1955 (CaC 42pp) **MB\$2.00**
 155. Classical Numismatic Review, v XX, 2 (Sum 1995) **MB \$1.00**
 156. TAMS Journal, v 41, no 3 (Jun 2001) **MB\$1.00**
 157. --another-- no. 5 (Oct 2001) **MB\$1.00**
 158. John Bergman Numismatic Literature MBS Four (4/23/88), The Paramount Library (w PRL) **MB\$10.**
 159. --another-- MBS Five (9/19/92), The William and Elizabeth Wisslead Library (w PRL) **MB\$10.**
 160. --another-- MBS SIX (10/30/93), Joe Der Library (w PRL) **MB \$10.**
 161. B Max Mehl P H Griffith Sale (Mar 20, 1912), mostly hand Priced, covers missing (great photo of a young Mehl) **MB \$20.**
 162. *United States Numismatic Literature* vol 1, J W Adams (19th Century Auction Catalogs), Hb 2001 with supplemental Additions & Corrections (new copies in shrinkwrap) **MB \$40.**
-

A Pleasant Surprise

During my June 2002 trip to the Czech Republic, hobbies of Genealogy and Numismatics suddenly joined hands, lo and behold, when visiting Jiri (George) Ryant in Prague, I learned he was a noted numismatist honored for his research by the American Numismatic Society. Jiri has well over 80 trays of coins, ancient and modern, as well as bank notes. One USA bank note that I saw was a crisp UNC 1835 New York bank note.

Jiri's library has a copy of Yeoman's Red Book. In the picture, Jiri is showing me (CCC Member #369) and my wife Rosalind (CCC Member #900) his copy of the Red Book.



The next day at the 2nd Ryant Family reunion, Jiri gave me an UNC 1931 10 Crown and an UNC 1934 20 Crown, which were minted for regular circulation. He also gave me commemorative coins, an UNC 1928 10 Crown celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Independence and and UNC 1937 20 Crown honoring Masaryk.

Rest assured, the next time I can attend a CCC Meeting, these coins will be my "show & tell" so all will have an opportunity to view these beautiful coins.

June 18, 2002

Charles L. Ryant, Jr.

Show and Tell

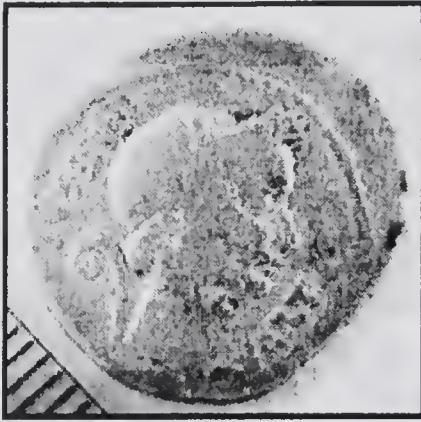
Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the ticks spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Steve Huber** showed items relating to the Vaughn Seed Company:
 - ☐ To celebrate its 100th anniversary, local company McHutchinson (a division of Vaughn Seed Company for 60 years) produced premiums containing a 1902-O silver dollar and a 2002 silver eagle.
 - ☐ A 1912 bronze Chicago Horticultural Society medal to the Vaughn Seed Company.
 - ☐ A 1913 bronze medal, as above.
 - ☐ A different 1913 bronze medal, as above.
 - ☐ A 1915 Pan Pacific International (San Francisco) award medal, but it never was engraved.

The medals were bought as a group from McHutchinson (Steve's employer) years ago.

2. **Drew Michyeta** showed an 1808 half pagoda coin, struck in Roostock, Madras, by the British colonial government, over an 8 reales piece. No undertype is visible, as the planchets were annealed in an oven after being punched out of the full 8 reales piece. Drew pointed out that four languages are used in the legends, and that the coinage was intended to circulate widely in southern and central India.
3. **Sharon Blocker** showed a range of recent acquisitions:
 - ☐ From a dealer in Germany, on eBay, six pieces of notgeld showing Christmas scenes.
 - ☐ Two \$1 coins from Sierra Leone showing animals; one showing the "Big Five" game animals, the other showing the "Big Cats."
 - ☐ A 2,500 tugrit piece from Mongolia, 5 ounces of .999 silver.
4. **Carl Wolf** showed ivory gambling chips used on Mississippi River steamboats. Based upon French and English card games, poker started in New Orleans and became widely popular in the 1800s. The contemporary prime years of whaling provided a steady source of material for chip making, but French Ivory (celluloid) replaced it by 1910 due to its lower cost. the chips usually are found without denominations, but typically the whites were 41, the red rings were \$5, and the blue rings \$10.
5. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some ancient and 20th century coins:
 - ☐ A portrait issue of Julius Caesar with a biga (chariot) on

reverse. Mark bought this coin at a meeting of the Ancient Coin club of Chicago, where Harlan Berk had brought part of a 2,300 coin hoard; all pieces were worn, and most graded no better than GOOD.



- ☐ A brockage Legionary denarius of Marc Antony, acquired from the above hoard; without the original reverse, we cannot identify the issuing legion.
 - ☐ A silver coin of Caracalla acquired from a CNG sale. This quinarius (fraction of a denarius) shows Nike on the reverse.
 - ☐ Two Standing Liberty Quarters recently brought to the shop. The 1925 coin grades ABOUT GOOD and still has its date, but while the other coin is in a much better grade, there is no trace of the date. Missing dates is a common problem in that series, at least before 1925 when the date was recessed for better protection against wear. Don Dool mentioned that his uncle had heard from a bank teller that some coins with dates did not stack, so tellers had files to remove dates - but no other members had heard that.
6. **Bob Feiler** showed obsolete U.S. paper money featuring interesting and artistic engravings; many naked women, but also some eagles, steamboats, trains, and other scenes.
7. **Don Dool** showed three copper coins from German states;
- ☐ A 1622 pfennig from Neuruppin, a city in Brandenburg. A spread eagle appears on the obverse, and also incuse on the reverse.



- ☐ A 1584 6 pfennig from Ahlen, a city in Westphalia.

- A 1638 1 heller from Marsburg, a city in Westphalia. St. Peter's key to heaven appears to the right of center on the obverse.



Our 1007th Meeting

Date: November 13, 2002

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1 Bank One Plaza Building (formerly the First National Bank Building); 18th Floor, on Dearborn between Madison and Monroe. Enter the building at the South entrance of the Dearborn side, sign in at the security desk and take the elevator to the 18th floor.

*Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and **everyone** must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*

Member Auction: Although the deadline for listing lots in the *Chatter* is past, you can still bring your lots with you to the November meeting. In the past few years, club related material (and Chicago area numismatic items) have realized the best results. Please consider using the club auction to dispose of the numismatic items you no longer need.

You can place a reserve on each lot, and there is no commission charged to either the buyer or seller. Auction lot viewing will be held before the meeting starts, and again briefly before the auction starts.

Please find elsewhere in this issue of the *Chatter* a listing of all auction lots that were known to us by D□Wednesday, October 30.

CCC Nominations

The nominations committee agreed on the following nominees for the 2003 - 2004 officers and Board. The election will be held during the December meeting.

President Mark Wieclaw

1st VP Robert Feiler

2nd VP Jeff Rosinia

Archivist Phil Carrigan

Directors Steve Zitowsky

Mike Metras

Lyle Daly

Carl Wolf

Bill Burd, Committee Chair

Birthday and Year Joined

December 6	Allen H. Meyer	1990
December 6	M. Michael Williams	2000
December 7	Brian C. Stubbs	1980
December 10	Mike Gasvoda	1995
December 16	Michael Schmidt	2000
December 19	Bill Grundy	1980
December 26	Kevin J. Blocker	2000
December 29	Nick Weiss	1996
December 31	Phillip J. Carrigan	1989

Chicago Coin Club Annual Banquet

All of the arrangements have been finalized for the Chicago Coin Club Annual Banquet on Wednesday, December 11th. A \$200 deposit check was hand delivered to the restaurant on September 25.

The annual Banquet will be held at the Alpine Banquet Haus located at 11141 West Roosevelt Road (at Wolf Road), Westchester, IL 60154. Phone 708-409-8640.

We will have the Alpine Banquet Haus from 6:00 PM until 10:30 or later at our discretion. The cost is \$20.00 per person and members are encouraged to bring family, friends and neighbors. Checks should be made out to the Chicago Coin Club, and may be given to Lyle Daly or mailed to the club's mail box, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

The location is very easy to get to and there is ample FREE parking only a few feet from their front door. There will be an open cash bar with a knowledgeable bartender.

The dinner meal will be served family style and consists of:

- ☐ Rolls and butter
- ☐ Soup
- ☐ Salad
- ☐ Mixed Vegetables
- ☐ Mostaccioli
- ☐ Mashed Potatoes
- ☐ Wienerschnitzel
- ☐ Roast Pork
- ☐ Chicken Vesuvio
- ☐ Apple Strudel

The owner and chef is European trained and has worked for Hotel Nikko, Ritz Carlton, the Whitehall, Mayfair Regent International and Chez Paul. The banquets many of us have attended there in the past have always been very professionally done and the cuisine is excellent.

submitted by Bob Feiler

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

**CHICAGO COIN CLUB
P.O. Box 2301
CHICAGO, IL 60690**

Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

Contacting Your Editor

Paul Hybert
prhybert@worldnet.att.net

Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist

Chicago

Coin

Club

Chatter



December, 2002

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 48 No. 12

December 2002

Minutes of the 1007th Meeting

The 1007th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order November 13, 2002 at 7 PM by President Carl Wolf, with 15 members present. The October Minutes that appeared in the *Chatter* were approved as published. Due to the absence of Lyle Daly, the Secretary/Treasurer, there was no Treasurer's report or discussion concerning members with past dues.

President Wolf reminded everyone of the upcoming December 11th Annual Banquet to be held at the Alpine Banquet Haus, 11141 W. Roosevelt Road, Westchester. The featured speaker will be Mark Wieclaw on the subject of Chinese Snuff Bottles. The cost will be \$20.00 per person and reservations are required. Wolf announced that several people had submitted checks already and to see him after the meeting.

It was announced that the Nomination Committee of Bill Burd, Mike Metras and Steve Zitowsky made the following nominations for 2003-05 officers: Mark Wieclaw, President; Robert Feiler, First V.P.; Jeff Rosinia, Second V.P.; Phil Carrigan, Archivist; and Steve Zitowsky, Mike Metras and Lyle Daly, Directors. Carl Wolf as immediate Past President serves automatically. The President informed the members that if anyone else wishes to serve, they should present to the Secretary in writing their intent to run with the signatures of five members in good standing.

Jeff Rosinia announced he would check with members familiar with Chicago banking history for a list of prospective subjects for the 2003 Chicago Paper Money Exposition souvenir card. Robert Leonard announced that he is planning to write the history of Salt and Pepper Money for the Chicago International Coin Fair souvenir card.

Under new business a 2003 calendar was put on the screen showing meeting dates. The President announced that he had reviewed the schedule against a

list of holidays and didn't see any conflicts. A motion was made and passed to hold our regular second Wednesday meeting on February 12 and April 9, plus hold a Saturday meeting at the Chicago Paper Money Exposition (February 22) and the Chicago International Coin Fair (April 26).

A motion was made and passed authorizing the Secretary/Treasurer to submit a check to the American Numismatic Association Library in memory of those members who passed away in 2002. The amount should be \$25.00 per deceased member. The President also announced that a former member, Kurt Eckstein, had recently passed away.

The President showed on the screen two CCC medals that were never presented. After a discussion the membership made and passed a motion to put them as separate lots on the evening's auction. One was a February 11, 1987 speaker's medal for Harry Flower, who was unable to attend that meeting and was rescheduled. The second medal was a 1986 Cabeen Exhibit Medal for Harry X Boosel and the engraver had added a period after the "X" and Boosel refused it and got another one engraved properly.

The evening's program was the annual auction.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Carl F. Wolf
President

Important Dates

- | | | |
|----------|-------|--|
| December | 11 | CCC Meeting - Annual Banquet - Featured Speaker Mark Wieclaw on <i>Chinese Snuff Bottles</i> |
| January | 8 | CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker <i>to be announced</i> |
| February | 21-23 | 9th Annual Chicago Paper Money Exposition |
| April | 25-27 | 28th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair |
-

Auction Results

November 13, 2002

These are the realized prices for the lots listed in the previous *Chatter* issue.

1	\$18.00	24	\$22.00	41	\$11.00	111	\$2.00
2	16.00	25	27.00	42	1.00	112	14.00
		26	4.00	43	4.00	113	1.00
10	3.00	27	6.00	44	2.00	114	11.00
11	3.00	28	25.00	45	5.00	115	2.00
12	10.00	29	6.00	46	4.00		
13	7.00	30	9.00	47	1.00	151	35.00
14	4.00	31	5.00			152	60.00
15	3.00	32	7.00	101	6.00	153	passed
16	2.00	33	10.00	102	6.00	154	passed
17	4.00	34	11.00	103	6.00	155	passed
18	4.00	35	5.00	105	2.00	156&157	1.00
19	3.00	36	22.00	106	3.00	158	passed
20	10.00	37	10.00	107	1.00	159	passed
21	25.00	38	11.00	108	6.00	160	passed
22	16.00	39	25.00	109	18.00	161	passed
23	9.00	40	3.00	110	4.00	162	passed

Our 1008th Meeting

Date: December 11, 2002

Time: 6PM to 7PM reception
7PM to 9 PM+ Dinner and Meeting

Location: Alpine Banquet Haus located at 11141 West Roosevelt Road (at Wolf Road), Westchester, IL 60154. Phone 708-409-8640. The location is very easy to get to and there is ample FREE parking only a few feet from their front door.

Menu: The dinner meal will be served family style and consists of: Rolls and butter, Soup, Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Mostaccioli, Mashed Potatoes, Wienerschnitzel, Roast Pork, Chicken Vesuvio, and Apple Strudel.

There will be an open cash bar with a knowledgeable bartender. The owner and chef is European trained and has worked for Hotel Nikko, Ritz Carlton, the Whitehall, Mayfair Regent International and Chez Paul.

The cost per meal is \$20.00 per person, and checks should be made out to the Chicago Coin Club, and may be given to Lyle Daly or mailed to the club's mail box, P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690.

Program: Mark Wieclaw on *Chinese Snuff Bottles*

This presentation will take a look at snuff bottles produced in the middle to late 19th century. We will see a variety of materials, from Agate to Jade to Rhino horn, along with the incredible designs carved into each of the bottles.

Birthday and Year Joined

January 2 Al Sawyer 1999

January 16 Michael Metras

January 18 Denise Kitchen 1998

January 26 Jennie Sochon 1982

CCC Nominations

The nominations committee agreed on the following nominees for the 2003 - 2004 officers and Board. The election will be held during the December meeting.

President Mark Wieclaw

1st VP Robert Feiler

2nd VP Jeff Rosinia

Archivist Phil Carrigan

Directors Steve Zitowsky

Mike Metras

Lyle Daly

Carl Wolf

Bill Burd, Committee Chair

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

**CHICAGO COIN CLUB
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Visit Our Web Site

<http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/>

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Club Officers

Carl Wolf - President
Robert Feiler - First Vice President
Donald Dool - Second Vice President

Directors: Lyle Daly
William Burd
Jeff Rosinia
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:

Lyle Daly - Secretary Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
Phil Carrigan - Archivist